

THE GATEWAY

Volume XC Number 41

Tuesday, 20 March, 2001

<http://gateway.su.ualberta.ca/>



Today

7 The Bears go to the big league.

16 Gateway writer Kim Mulder exorcises her demons in a feature about Bob Larson, the exorcist.

18 Nothing's sacred when Mike Winters explores his own penis envy in the latest *Sex Boys* comic.

Quote for the day:

If you want a picture of the future, imagine a boot stamping on a human face—forever.

— George Orwell, 1984

This day in the Gateway's history:

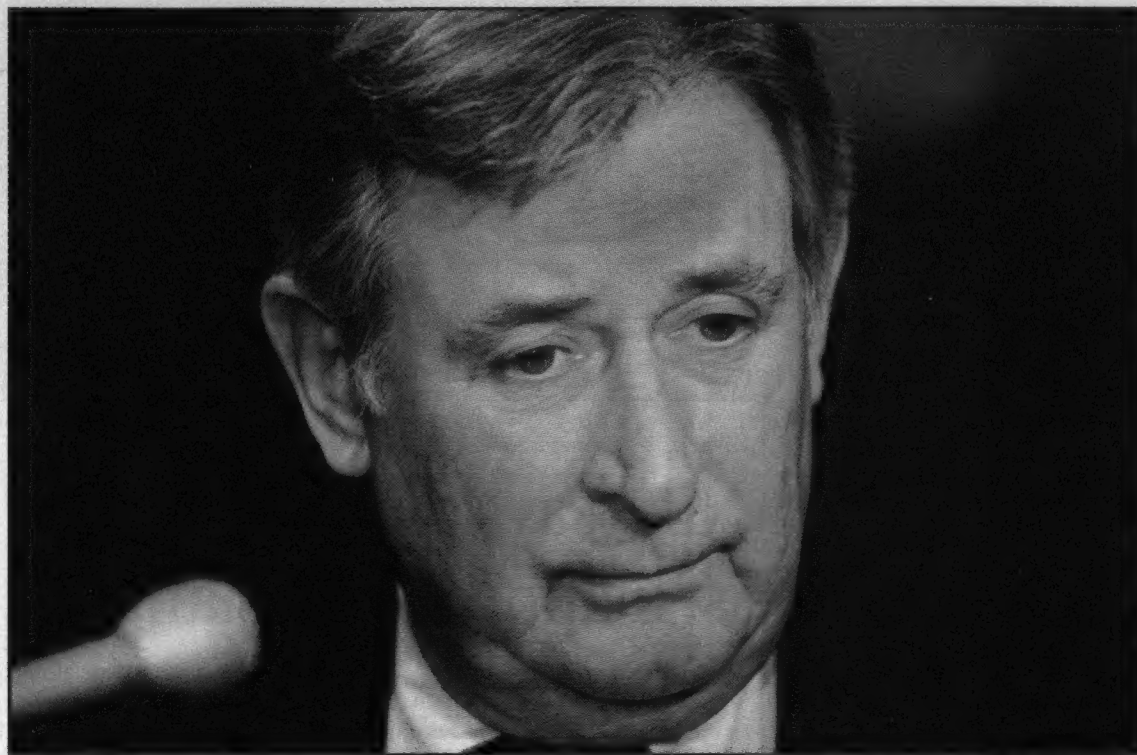
The SU accused Admin of ripping them off when they were charged \$10 000 for collection of SU fees. The U of A was the only campus in Canada that issued a fee for funding collection, and administrators failed to justify it. The University comptroller said the fee was calculated as a percentage of the total fees belonging to the SU and charging the SU that percentage of collection costs. However, SU spokespeople said it did not cost the University any extra money to collect SU fees.

1982

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Please recycle this newspaper



Patrick Finlay / THE GATEWAY

Premier Klein enjoyed food and drink with Albertan business and development representatives last Thursday.

Kingly reception for Klein at EDE luncheon

Andra Olson
NEWS STAFF

'King Ralph' has certainly won his kingdom.

At Economic Development Edmonton's annual luncheon on Thursday, thrice-elected Premier Ralph Klein addressed a record 1550 representatives of Edmonton's business and development community and was welcomed as a monarch.

"Thank you for this surprising, touching welcome," Klein gushed as 170 tables of delegates rose to their feet with a tumultuous round of applause.

While the theme of the event was "Hello World"—focusing on the worldwide marketing of Edmonton services and products—the feeling of almost all in attendance was "Hello Ralph."

"We welcome premier Klein,"

announced EDE CEO Jim Edwards. "What a wonderful victory for the premier, what a wonderful victory for Albertans."

Mayor Bill Smith echoed the praise for Klein with his words of congratulations, and said he looked forward to a continued relationship with the premier. Smith recounted Klein's involvement in bringing the upcoming World Track and Field Championships to Edmonton. "He had more to do with getting the games to Edmonton than most people are aware of."

Smith then recalled an articulate conversation with the premier where the two shared visions of a booming economy for Alberta's capital. "I believe the premier said, 'Edmonton is going to crank!'"

Klein said the luncheon "was the first opportunity since election night to address Edmontonians directly."

"I want to thank the people of this city for the great honour they have bestowed upon my party and me."

Klein then promised that in his third term, the government would stay committed to the people of the capital region. "We won't let them down!"

Later, at a press conference, Klein avoided questions asking if his government had perhaps already failed its citizens in areas such as education and energy, where costs of each are among the highest in Canada.

When asked why Klein's "Alberta Advantage" seems to evade students and impoverished citizens of the province, the Premier responded, "First of all, if you are talking about electricity, I think you had better do an examination truthfully of whether Albertans do pay amongst the highest [energy rates]."

PLEASE SEE "KLEIN" ON PAGE 3

4.0-point grading system approved for 2003

Julian Cheung
NEWS STAFF

Give it a little over two years, and students will be pleased to see fours on their transcripts.

On Monday, the University's General Faculties Council (GFC) approved a proposal to change the nine-point grading scale to a four-point scale similar to that used by other North American institutions.

The new scale will be introduced for courses beginning in September 2003, but since grades from the nine-point system will not be converted to the new scale, several generations of students will receive transcripts with mixed grades.

Registrar Brian Silzer explained that the U of A's present grading system often causes confusion among admission and scholarship committees at other schools. "The uniqueness of the U of A's nine-point grading scale presents a possibility of student disadvantage due to misunderstanding of the grading system," he said.

In January 1999, GFC essentially decided to discard the current grading system when a majority of members voted not to accept a report which suggested that the grading system is adequate.

The adoption of the new system is the first step in a larger plan to establish a common grading scale for all Alberta universities. The idea of a single Alberta post-secondary grading system was conceived in January 2000, and was met with approval by the provincewide Universities Coordinating Council.

The proposal will now see similar consideration at the University of Calgary, the University of Lethbridge, Canadian University College, and Nazarene University College. Those schools all use slightly different four-point systems which will only require minor modification to match the U of A's new scale.

Schools with entirely different scales, like Augustana University College, Concordia University College, King's University College, and Athabasca University, will consider the changes later on. Those institutions are expected to follow suit, although they will face greater difficulty than will schools that already use something similar to the U of A's new scale.

PLEASE SEE "GRADING" ON PAGE 3

Custom Nikes put MIT student deeper in activism than expected

Vianne Fung
NEWS STAFF

An American student became an Internet legend when he used his concerns about Nike's treatment of overseas workers to make a humorous statement and make the company sweat.

Nike's iD website allows customers to order a word of their choice stitched onto their shoes. MIT graduate student Jonah Peretti ordered a pair shoes labelled "sweatshop."

Through e-mail, an unidentified Nike representative rejected Peretti's order on the grounds that the chosen word constituted "inappropriate slang."

Peretti replied that "sweatshop" is not listed as slang in the dictionary. He asked the representative to "value my freedom of expression and reconsider your decision to reject my order."

However, the Nike representa-

tive replied, "Nike reserves the right to cancel any personal iD up to 24 hours after it has been submitted."

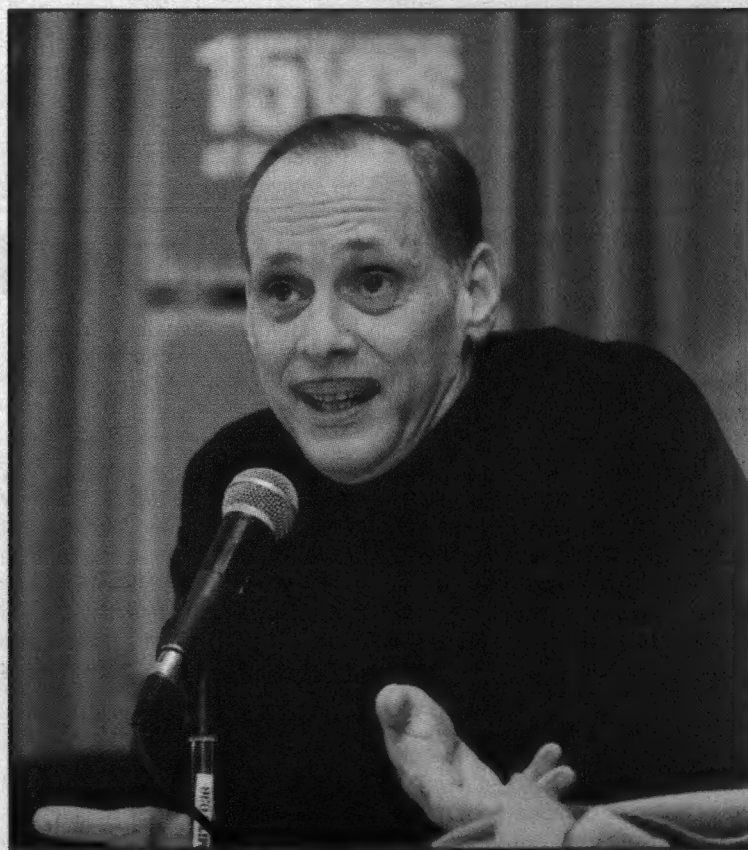
Peretti wrote back, "I choose the iD because I wanted to remember the toil and labor of the children that made my shoes."

The rules for personalization of Nike iD products state, "While we honor most personal iDs, we cannot honor every one. Some ... may contain material that we consider inappropriate or simply do not want to place on our products."

As a final gripe, Peretti requested "a color snapshot of the ten-year-old Vietnamese girl who makes my shoes," yet Nike failed to respond.

Peretti told the Gateway that he feels that the iD program is "just sending a to-do list to some workers so that they can make your shoes for you under these truly horrible conditions."

PLEASE SEE "NIKE" ON PAGE 2



Marcus Benoit / THE GATEWAY

Film director John Waters brought his bizarre brand of shock humour to Edmonton last weekend. See page 9 for Local Heroes coverage.

THE GATEWAY

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Contributors

Collin Gallant, Erin Ignacio, Rotating Dog, Julian Cheung Chi Lam, Shaun Flannigan, Vianne Fung, Andra Olson, Kelly and Erika Korpeson, Owen Livermore, Geoff and Adam Moyston, SUPERSTAR!, Chris Boutet, Mark Woytiuk, Chris Govias, Alison Cryslar, Dean Simmons, Jessie Meikle, Patrick Finlay, Siyani Nsaliwa, Jagdeep Dhadli, Adam and James Rozenford, Heather Adler, Meredith Porter, Kim Mulder, HARVEY G THOMGIRT, Kate Rossiter, and Kati Kovacs's "Saturday Night Is Alright For Fighting." And that fucker Brad better stay the hell away from my popcorn.

Klein says tax rebates 'helped' PCs in election

"KLEIN" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Before energy sales in Alberta were deregulated, Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters ranking the province twenty-fifth out of 173 jurisdictions in energy price competitiveness.

But now, the province is so electrically strained that it is buying high-priced power from BC and Saskatchewan, as well as Alberta utility producers that avoided deregulation in areas like Medicine Hat. "Only California and Hawaii have higher industrial rates than Alberta," reported a recent CME newsletter.

The Premier said that Alberta costs will stay low because "we produce the energy, our transportation costs are lower, plus we are able to rebate."

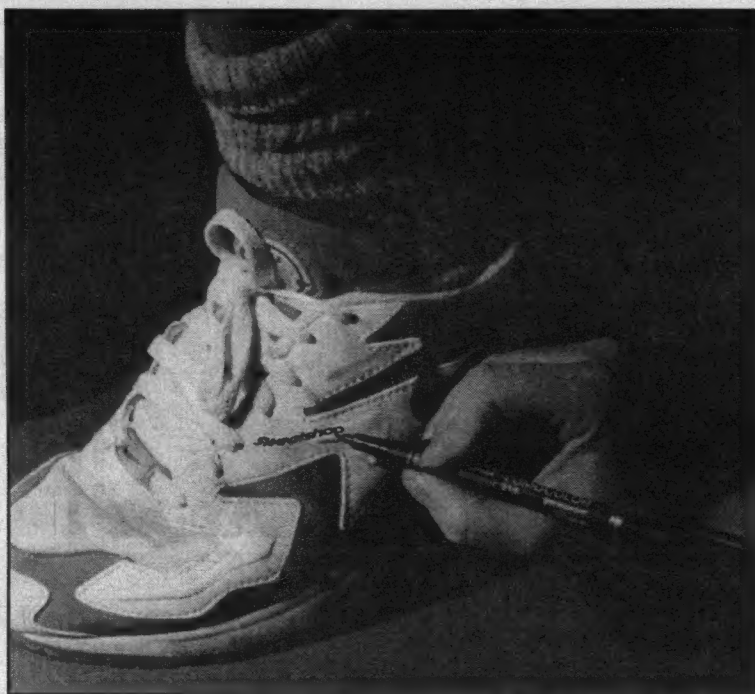
When asked how rebates aided the provincial PC campaign and if these would continue into Klein's next term, the Premier smirked. "Well, they helped us with the election, but we would have gone ahead with rebates election or no election. We will put into place a longer-term program for natural gas rebates, we will review the electrical rebate program at the end of this year, it will run its scheduled year."

The EDE luncheon was particularly special event for several University of Alberta staff and alumni. During the presentation of the board's "Ambassador Awards," Robert and Shirley Stollery were honoured for their work in the city.

Alongside their donations for the completion of the Stollery Children's Center at the University Hospital, the Stollerys were commended by EDE for their community work. Robert Stollery held posts as U of A's Director of Health Services, and was recently awarded an honorary Doctorate of Laws.

The Chairman's Award of Excellence was awarded to the University of Alberta Islet Cell Transplantation Team, which received international media attention last year for a diabetes breakthrough.

"Their research is among the world's best," announced an EDE representative. "Their work should be commended."



Alison Cryslar, Jessie Meikle, Patrick Finlay, Anna Carastathis / THE GATEWAY
Nike ruled that they have last say about what gets written on custom shoes.

Nike says that 'sweatshop' is 'inappropriate slang'

"NIKE" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Initially it was just a whim. I never expected the shoes," Peretti said that he did not anticipate the response that his e-mail exchange with Nike elicited as it passed through the Internet.

"I received literally thousands of e-mails," he said. "The majority of them have been letters of support but some people also wondered whether this was real. And I think a lot of people are sick of companies like Nike that spend so much time telling its consumers about freedom but don't really care about the rights of their workers."

Nike is an active member of the Global Alliance for Workers and Communities, an organization aimed at helping corporations develop ways to respond to worker needs. Global Alliance recently completed a survey of Thai and Indonesian workers. The results of that survey were released in its first annual report in September.

Surveyors interviewed 4000 out of 54 000 Nike contract workers in Indonesia. The findings showed that workers generally wanted improvements in wages, health conditions, education, job skills, and job security.

Dusty Kidd, Nike's vice-president for corporate responsibility, commented that "the Global Alliance report raised some disturbing issues about the workplaces in Indonesia where some Nike products are made. No worker should be subject to some of the working

conditions reported in this assessment. This is the most comprehensive information we have about worker opinions in our Indonesian partner factories, and we will use it to continue to improve our partner factories in Indonesia and throughout our global supply chain."

A representative of Nike Canada said that the company has taken significant actions to improve the lives and working conditions of its workers around the world. According to the representative, Nike's actions with regards to labour rights are considered the foremost in the industry. "No other company, nor our harshest critics, have done as much in terms of labor rights, code-of-conduct enforcement, age and wage improvements as Nike."

"At Nike, we know that globalization and human rights can—and do—co-exist. We work closely with non-profit organizations, governmental authorities and other partners to ensure that our workers, and their communities, benefit from their relationship with Nike."

Although Peretti didn't intend his shoe order to be more than a personal challenge to Nike, he has been contacted by organizers of both pro- and anti-Nike campaigns.

Peretti concluded, "I don't think I have made that much of an impact. There was a point where Nike denied its problems, but at least it has now promised to address the problems and look into them."

Opposition MPs demand gov't stance on FTAA

Darren Stewart

CUP OTTAWA BUREAU CHIEF

OTTAWA (CUP) — Some members of parliament demanded a draft of Canada's position on the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) agreement at a special meeting with cabinet ministers yesterday.

The MPs called for the texts to be made available to elected officials and to the public during a meeting of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade on 15 March, where Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew and Foreign Affairs Minister John Manley made a special address.

The FTAA will be on the agenda during the Summit of Americas in late April in Quebec City, where 7500 officials from 34 nations will hammer out a free-trade agreement for an area that stretches from the Arctic to Argentina.

During the committee meeting, Bloc Quebecois MP Pierre Paquette said it was undemocratic for the texts to be unavailable to the public, let alone elected representatives, for a full and open debate. "It seems to be contradictory to the notion of transparency, that we hear so much about in the house, when we ask questions on the process," said Paquette.

But Pettigrew said Canada is taking a leadership role in asking to make the documents and the summaries of its own position public. Pettigrew said the Canadian government is representing the interests of Canada in the negotiations and it has made a concerted effort to engage in an open dialogue with the Canadian public.

"Our government has been the most transparent in the hemisphere," said Pettigrew.

He added that this agreement has been the most transparent international trade agreement process thus far and that he would attempt to achieve consensus to make the documents public at an upcoming ministerial meeting in Buenos Aires on 6 April.

"As you know, these negotiations will cover the next several years," said Pettigrew. "We're perhaps at the midpoint and we thought that it was strategically more valuable to take into the account the positions of the other countries."

NDP MP Svend Robinson scoffed at the ministers' claims of transparency, calling the process "contempt for democracy."

"This is literally unbelievable," he said, "when we see a process next month in Quebec City with a security operation that is literally unparalleled in Canadian history—creating an armed fortress and quite ruthlessly suppressing dissent, and in my view, doing that in a way that violates some of the most fundamental Charter rights of Canadians."

Robinson also called Canada's decision to not invite Cuba to the summit "appalling and hypocritical," and suggested that the government is pandering to the US.

Manley responded that there wasn't consensus among the 34 participating countries that Cuba should attend the summit.

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Muggers go clubbing

On March 17 at 2:35am, Campus Security officers spotted a crowd near the Jubilee Auditorium. A student on his way back to residence had been attacked by a group of stick-wielding men who stole his wallet. He was bleeding heavily from the forehead and was taken to the hospital by EMS. The altercation apparently began near the Shoppers Drug Mart on Whyte Avenue.

Geriatric mugging

At 7:00pm on 16 March, Edmonton Transit asked for the assistance of Campus Security to respond to a report of a 75-year-old lady who was attacked and robbed

by another female. Edmonton Police Services responded and took over the investigation.

Bike theft cut short

At 6:00pm on 16 March, city police called Campus Security after a student called 911 to report suspects trying to cut the lock on some bikes near HUB with a bolt cutter. Campus Security arrived within a minute and arrested two males and a female. Two bikes were recovered.

Subway robber torpedoed

At about 10:00pm on 13 March, a female employee of the Newton Place Subway sandwich shop reported being assaulted and

robbed by a man. Campus Security spotted a male matching the description of the suspect at 112 Street and 88 Avenue. Edmonton Police arrived and arrested the suspect. The man had no fixed address and was reportedly intoxicated at the time of the incident. Only food was reported as stolen.

Three stooges booted

On 13 March at 6:00pm, a student reported three intoxicated males in the Education Building. Campus Security caught up to them and, after the intoxicated males provided false names, the three were arrested for public intoxication and were trespassed from campus. None were students.

Compiled by Barrie Tanner (barrie.tanner@su.ualberta.ca)

Student group calls on government to make housing affordable for poor

Shaun Flannigan
NEWS STAFF

It's called the "one-per-cent solution," and it could be worth \$180 million to Alberta's poor—if a group of U of A students can convince the government to listen.

The Youth Coalition Against Poverty (YCAP) is circulating a petition that asks the provincial government to allocate one per cent of the budget for affordable housing programs.

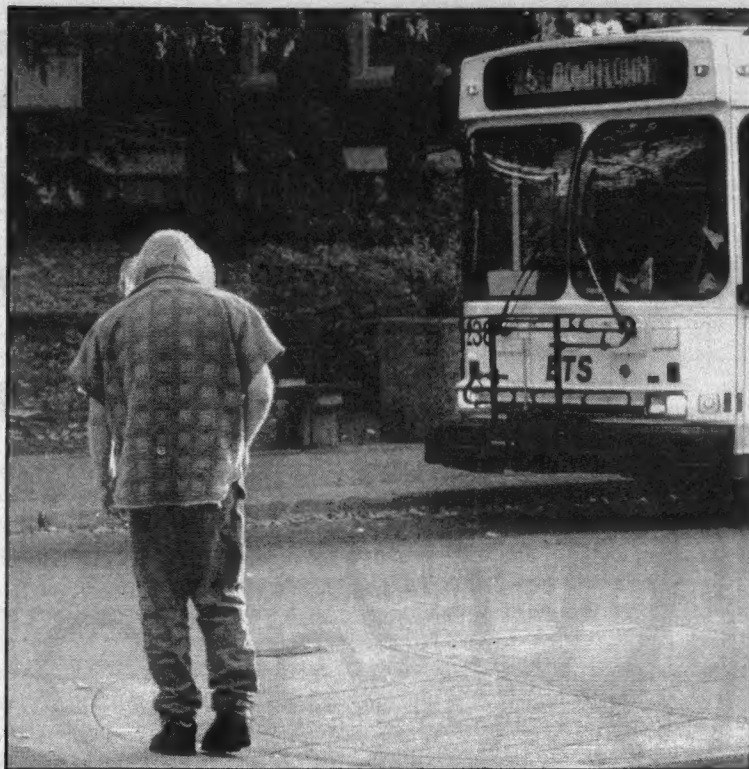
YCAP was started a couple years ago, second-year Science student Rose Yeung explained. "It originated in high school when one of our friends came up with the idea of forming a youth-based, youth-run group that deals with poverty in Edmonton. There hadn't really been an advocacy group run by youth that was non-religious based, so we decided to start one."

According to Yeung, the group's main focus is "to educate, and to make the public aware of poverty within Edmonton, and what they can do to alleviate that problem."

Yeung thinks the one-per-cent solution would be an effective solution because the allocated money "would go to various community plans that have already been researched and developed."

She added that there are plans being put into action, but they haven't reached their full potential "simply because they're lacking funding." She said that "it isn't just throwing money at a problem ... It's really going to financing projects already outlined."

One of the main tenets of the plan is that it will promote self-sufficiency. "Part of the housing ... is supportive housing, where people



File Photo / THE GATEWAY

A student group is asking the province to spend \$180M to fight homelessness.

have programs in place to get them off the streets and learn how to manage their finances, and how to raise their families," she said.

Yeung said that the group has received a positive response, but said that "Albertans in general do not realize the homelessness crisis in Alberta ... so our job has been telling people about what has been going on and letting them know the seriousness of the situation."

The petitions will be presented to the government next month.

Meera Pandompam, a second-year Science student who is also involved in YCAP, said that group members asked Edmonton candidates in the provincial election

if they would support the one-per-cent solution. According to Yeung, only six or seven MLA candidates chose to support the petition drive.

She said that the candidates who responded favourably were from the Liberals and NDP. "We had some interest from the PC party, but none of them accepted it," she said.

"The interesting thing about the PC party is that they wrote us a letter," continued Yeung. In that letter, Yeung claimed, the PCs wrote that "they wanted to enhance Alberta's economy by promoting education, and giving a 'hand-up' and not a 'hand-out.'"

BC students leave classes for environment

Sarah Glen
CUP WESTERN ENVIRONMENT BUREAU

VICTORIA (CUP) — More than 400 students on three British Columbia campuses walked out of classes Friday in a show of solidarity and support for the province's environmental movement.

Students from the University of Victoria and Camosun College gathered at UVic, while UBC students met on their own campus, to listen to live music and hear speeches

calling on the ruling NDPs to offer more environmental protection before the upcoming provincial election.

"Students act as catalysts for environmental change," said Ken Wu, one of the speakers at the rally and a campaigner with Western Canada Wilderness Committee, one of the rally organizers. "We need to stand up and make some noise."

His organization is currently campaigning the provincial gov-

ernment to protect three BC wilderness areas: the Great Bear Rainforest, the Upper Walbran and the South Chilcotin valleys.

The Wilderness Committee is riding high after a successful campaign that saw a piece of proposed legislation dropped from the government's agenda after citizens criticized it. The legislation would have frozen the amount of public land in the province that can be turned into park and made the rest available for logging.

Grading system change popular with students

"GRADING" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The U of A opted for a 4.0-point scale over a 4.3-point system that would have given .3 points more for work assessed as A+. The approved 4.0-point system will permit grades of 0.0(F/FS), 1.0(D), 1.3(D+), 1.7(C-), 2.0(C), 2.3(C+), 2.7(B-), 3.0(B), 3.3(B+), 3.7(A-), and 4.0(A/A+).

Student leaders think that the new scale will allow for clearer evaluation of performance because it will allow fractions of grades to be awarded. Chris Samuel, Students' Union VP (Academic) and president-elect, explained that "the new system [will] give 11 passing grades for undergraduates, compared to five for the nine-point scale. That means student performance can be better differentiated."

Graduate students will have six

passing grades, as compared to four in the current system. For them, a 2.7(B-) will be considered a passing grade.

Samuel said he was "confident that the four-point grading scale works."

But he expressed concerns with hybrid transcripts for students with grades in both the nine-point and four-point scales. "Employers might see a student getting all nines in the first few years, then all fours in later years, and think, 'What happened?' They might not realize that there were changes to the system."

Although there are concerns about the minor financial cost of changing grading systems, students appear interested in the change. According to Silzer, "the student representative of the GFC

were actually some of the strongest advocates of the new system."

Katie Grant, a first-year Science student, said, "We might as well change our grading scale, if there's no distinct advantage to the current system. It'll be easier if our grades are compatible with other institutions."

Rhoda Popson, another first-year Science student, agreed. "I think that the four-point system will make it a lot easier for transfer students," she said.

Paul Venturelli, a Biological Sciences graduate student, said that his academic average was lowered due to problems in grading conversion when he transferred to the U of A from Ontario. "I think the common grading system should be implemented for all Canadian post-secondary institutions," he remarked.



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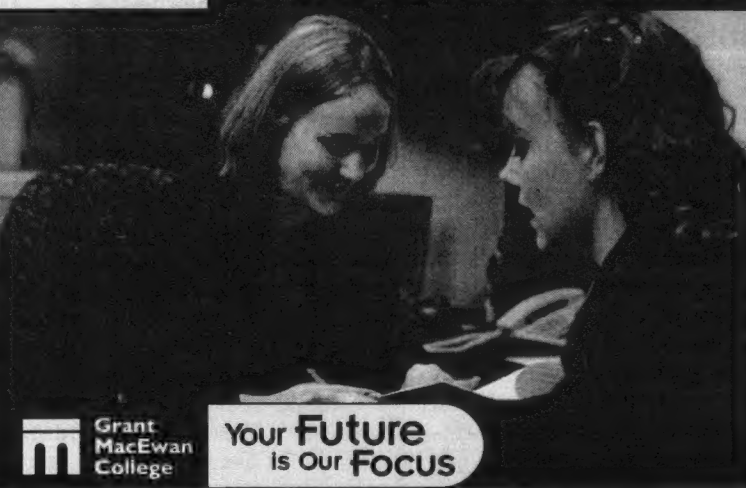
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Grant MacEwan College

Your Future
Is Our Focus

The Graduate Students' Association Annual General Meeting will be held Monday March 26, 2001 in the Physics Building, Room 126 at 6:00pm. Please join us!

Items of Business Include:

1. By-election for the Executive VP position. Nominations are open until the AGM and this position will be voted on during the meeting.
2. A referendum question will be proposed to charge 1% of the salary portion of all academically employed graduate students to support GSA Infrastructure—e.g., legal defense fund.
3. Constitutional Amendments
 - add: 3(d) represent all academically employed graduate students
 - amend 27(1) to : the bylaws be amended by a two-thirds majority vote in favor at any regularly constituted meeting of Council or any duly constituted general meeting
 - repeal 28(3)

There will be an information session on the GSA Dental Plan at 5:00pm, again, please join us!

For more information call the GSA office at 492-2175 or drop in to see us, we are located at 206N Power Plant.



EDITORIAL

Cows needn't be burned if they're not desired

No Sir or Ma'am, that darling little bull to the right of this article isn't gently sleeping while being tickled by poorly-drawn morning mist. He's doing much more. A while ago, Mad Cow Disease not only became a tool of Canadian foreign economic policy but also caused some 4.3 million European cattle to be consigned to a giant beef-smelling funeral pyre.

And that's just what our bull over there is participating in, but with a slight difference: he's got hoof and mouth disease. Or, more accurately, a handful out of the thousands of cattle on his farm got hoof and mouth, so he's become the victim of what his farmer boss calls "preemptive slaughtering." Now he and another half million of his girlfriends are going up in smoke in Britain alone.

We can't eat these 4.8 million cattle. Does this leave us hungry? Not me, as I've been a vegetarian for a couple of years. Nor will it affect anyone else over here, as there are so many cattle around that this won't noticeably raise prices in North America.

Does this make us sad? At most, only half the time, since most people only feel sadness at the death of cute little baby calves. Giant brutish cattle are ugly and fit for little more than the frying pan.

What about guilty? We are, after all, the cause of this problem

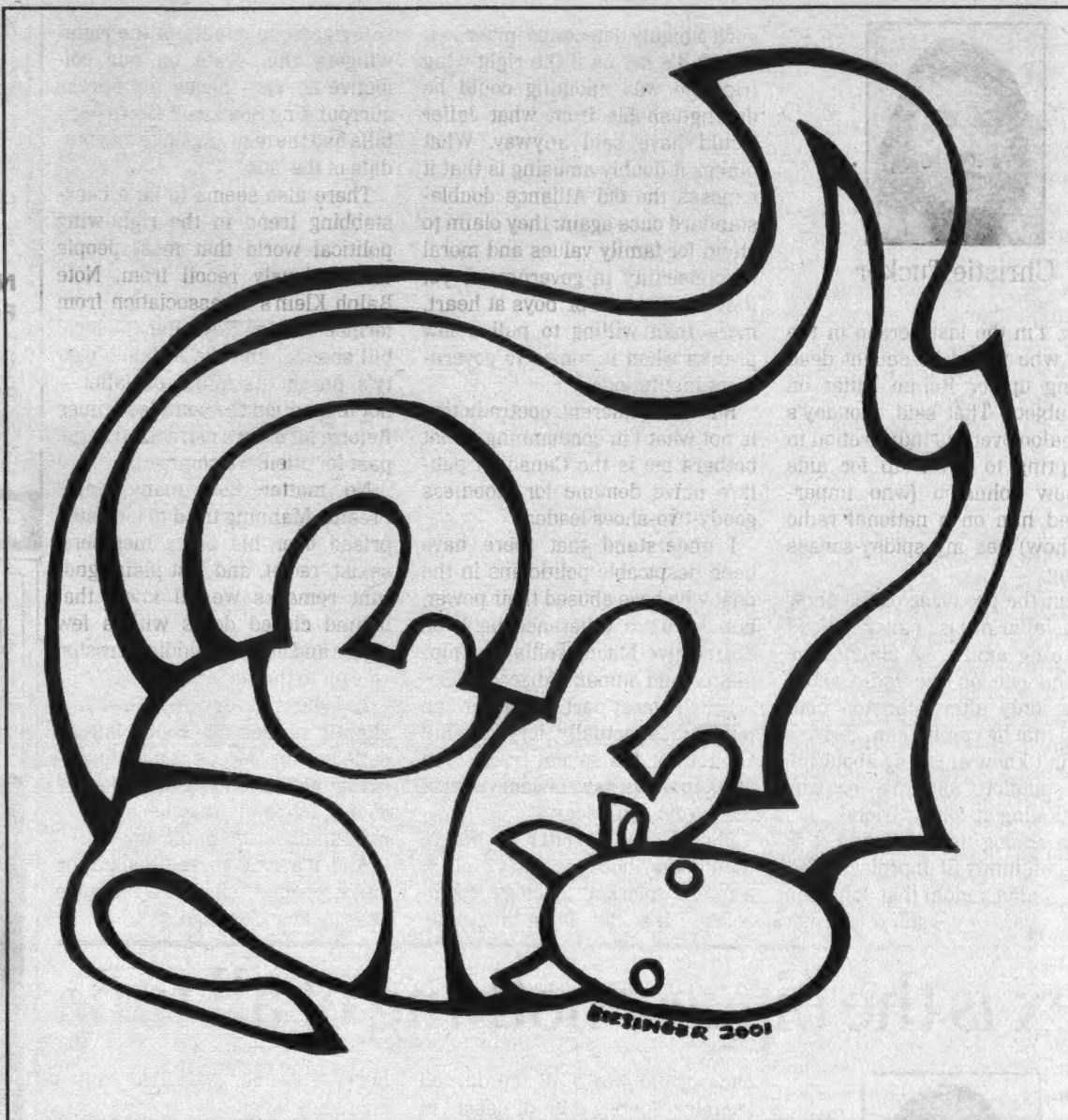
(by 'we' I mean a majority of Westerners). Without our high demand for the luxury of beef, there would be no farms as enormous as the one our poor little bull is on. Such a concentration of cattle contributes to a swift disease transmission rate, unsanitary pastures, and farm-management difficulties.

I'd now like to coin the phrase "happy as a pig in a thousand other pigs' shit" as the converse to "happy as a pig in shit." I'd say that adequately describes the current situation of cattle, pigs, and most of the hooved residents of Europe and North America's farms.

Will the people of North America grab on to this phrase? Not likely. You're probably snickering at that notion right now. But some might take it seriously, like a few animal rights supporting rally-goers, or PETA, or SETA.

I agree that for the most part, no one's going to feel hungry, sad, or guilty at his mess. Then why do I insist on bringing this up? Because a tiny little handful of kids might feel a little sad, knowing that they might be part of what might be a problem. And then they might think that beef is indeed a luxury, and that as such a thing, it isn't that difficult to give up.

Raymond Biesinger
CIRCULATION MANAGER



Another valiant British volunteer in the war against hoof and mouth disease.

LETTERS

Take 'racist' clubs to Human Rights Board

Having followed recent reports in both the *Gateway* and *Edmonton Journal* on discrimination against visible minorities at local night-spots, I'm surprised that none of the victims of this conduct have pursued the issue via a complaint to the Alberta Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Commission.

The process is simple, relatively streamlined, and practically cost—and lawyer—free. It is intended to provide an avenue for redress without the cost or time commitment associated with most civil litigation. As someone who has represented both complainants and respondents before the Commission, I can say that the process gets attention.

Consider this the next time you're hassled by a bouncer because of your ethnicity.

G EISENBAUM
ARTS ALUMNI

Only smokers can save themselves

This is in response to the last editorial in the *Gateway* ("Non-smokers must do more to end smoking," 15 March) by Marcus Bence. Bence claims that there are not enough resources to help out

smokers, and he portrays smokers as victims of their own habit.

With health warnings on every pack and educational resources at every health centre stating the adverse health effects and addictive nature of smoking, I'm left to wonder if Bence was characterizing smokers as victims of their own stupidity. He claims it would cost smokers "roughly \$200" to quit smoking. This is short-sighted when you consider that the cumulative costs of smoking an average of "12 cigarettes" per day is about \$981.12 per year at today's prices. At this rate, Marcus could afford to quit almost five times in just one year. This, however, is not quite realistic, as most smokers take on the habit for not one, but many years.

Is \$200 still too much to quit, Marcus? What about the personal costs of decreased health in the form of cancer, emphysema and cardiovascular disease, to which smoking is linked. Bence absurdly tries to lay the responsibility for smokers breaking their dirty habits on the backs of non-smokers. There is enough public education regarding smoking for even children to know that it has serious negative consequences.

Yes, smoking is addictive. And yes, it does affect non-smokers too. But Marcus, don't you realize that we already pay for smokers in the form of increased health-care costs?

As a final point, Bence asks that we lobby the government to spend more on smoking cessation programs. He apparently forgets that the same government is making a

killing (literally) on cigarette taxes. Fat chance that lobbying would help. Mr Bence should take some responsibility for his own actions.

DEAN SIMMONS
NUTRITION & FOODS III

BoG Rep flip-flops

Chris Burrows' Board-of-Governors Representative campaign pamphlet: "Chris opposes activism ..."

Chris Burrows' letter to the *Gateway* (15 March): "I do not oppose activism ..."

Honestly Chris, if you truly support activism and want to cooperate with the students who are fighting tuition increases, then I look forward to working with you too.

But at least get your story straight. What other promises from your campaign platform are you going to renounce?

LIAN CHANG
SCIENCE II

Going topless was a political stunt

I would like to clarify that I did not "remove [my] shirt to capitalize on an offer for free drinks," as stated in the *Gateway* ("Homophobic motive in GSA election complaint," says McEwen," 15 March).

The incident occurred in August 1999 and I was out at a local off-campus establishment with my softball team after a game. I did

remove my top, but the circumstances are somewhat different than those portrayed in the article.

The bar we were at had a policy that discriminated against women—they gave discounted draft to topless men but did not extend the same benefits to women. I in fact removed my T-shirt, as did my two friends, and the bartender gave us the same deal he was offering topless men after we discussed gender discrimination. It was a political statement about discrimination and I would do it again in a heartbeat.

SHANNON MCEWEN
PRESIDENT, GRADUATE
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Sports Editor rocks

I want to thank Barrie Tanner for taking time to talk to our class about how to write a newspaper article. At school I'm kind of an editor in our school's newspaper, so it helped me a lot. One thing I learned was to always put important things at the top of your article.

JOHANA ZARA
GRADE 6

Five Ws and an H

Barrie Tanner: Thank you for coming to our class. We really appreciated you coming. We hope you come again. I think I learned how to do an inverted pyramid. When I read the Sports section I am going to look for the stuff you

talked about. I really enjoyed you coming and telling us all of that stuff you said.

When we had to do the thing where we go into groups, my friend Jeff was the injured person. He was riding down the pussy hill at Snow Valley and broke his leg. I was the attendant guy and carried him to the medi-shack. I learned about the five Ws and the H.

CAMERON LIGARD
GRADE 6

Thanks again, Tanner

Thank you Mr Tanner for coming to our class and teaching us the proper way to write a news article. I never knew that you should put the most interesting facts at the beginning like an inverted pyramid. I really liked the story that we had to write. I am very interested in articles.

HEATHER MEGYESI
GRADE 6

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 0-10 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@su.ualberta.ca.

The *Gateway* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of letters it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words in length and include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

Jaffer's radio-impersonation flub shows more human side to Alliance politicians



Christie Tucker

Now, I'm the last person in the world who would be caught dead sticking up for Rahim Jaffer on any subject. That said, Monday's hullabaloo over his indiscretion in attempting to cover up for aide Matthew Johnston (who impersonated him on a national radio talk-show) has my spidey-senses tingling.

When the producer of the show called Jaffer after a caller noticed something amiss, he claimed he was the one on the radio show. It was only after Johnston confessed that he came clean. He says he didn't know anything about the impersonation, and that he was just sticking up for his friend.

Who among us didn't find it at least a bit funny (if unprofessional, yadda yadda yadda) that Johnston would have the gonads to attempt

such a highly detectable impersonation? It's not as if the right-wing tripe he was spouting could be distinguishable from what Jaffer would have said anyway. What makes it doubly amusing is that it exposes the old Alliance double-standard once again: they claim to stand for family values and moral responsibility in government, yet they're just good ol' boys at heart, more than willing to pull a few pranks when it comes to government institutions.

But that inherent contradiction is not what I'm condemning. What bothers me is the Canadian public's naive demand for bloodless goody-two-shoes leaders.

I understand that there have been despicable politicians in the past who have abused their power, but there's a difference between destructive Machiavellian manipulation and human indiscretions.

For the most part, the American public has actually forgiven Bill Clinton for his sexual trysts, and the Kennedys have become part of his heroic mythology.

Perhaps we're softer on liberal politicians because they follow a more tolerant ideology themselves. It's the Bible-thumping,

self-righteous quality of the right-wingers that grate on our collective nerves—hence the uproar surrounding Stockwell Day's legal bills and the televangelist sex scandals of the '80s.

There also seems to be a backstabbing trend in the right-wing political world that most people unconsciously recoil from. Note Ralph Klein's disassociation from former protégé Day after the legal bill scandal and the Alliance party's harsh discipline of Jaffer—not to mention the countless times Reform MPs were ostracized in the past for offensive comments.

No matter how many times Preston Manning tried to look surprised over his party members' sexist, racist, and just plain ignorant remarks we all knew that behind closed doors with a few cigars and hunting buddies, Preston was up to the same old tricks.

So I guess the one thing I can find slightly redeeming about Jaffer's gaffe (as the papers are calling it) is that his immediate cover for his friend Johnston reveals a pretty un-Alliance trait: public loyalty.

And it's nice to see something I like coming out of the Alliance cesspool for a change.

Sex is the biggest nothing of all time



Jagdeep Dhadli

Ah, sex—where would my sense of humour be without it?

Like most guys whose social skills are inept, even on a good day, I'm single and can become a little preoccupied with that funny little muddle called coitus. Okay, "pre-occupied" is kind of a euphemism for "I jerk off so much that I can now commit crimes with my right hand without worry because there is no way I'd leave any fingerprints." What I don't get is why I have "it" on the brain so much. Why the hell do I care if I'm knee-deep in unmentionables or not? Sex, when you think about it, is kind of a weird thing.

A weird thing indeed! There are so many subversive little copulation aficionados out there that it's hard to keep up.

You take seemingly average, God-fearin' people, place them in a bedroom with an attractive mate or even a 1960s *National Geographic* magazine (Jane Goodall is totally hot!) and they become drooling, primal beasts wanting some hardcore, stank action.

And what a fickle bunch we are: there are people who like to dress up in leather and get spanked; there are people who like to get pissed on; and there are people who can do things that you won't believe with a lemon and a shampoo bottle. And that's just a microscopic cross-section of the zillions of militant states that once made up the former nation of Dink 'n' Vagina.

What is it about sex? Now I know what you're saying: "What isn't it?" But really, think about it. Is 30 sec-

onds of fun worth all the darned trouble? There's a lot of hassle in picking someone up, winning them, dining them, explaining to them that, yes, *Empire Strikes Back* is a better movie than *Return of the Jedi* and no, they may not touch my limited edition, platinum-cover *Spider-Man* #1 signed by Todd McFarlane.

Of course, I'm being facetious. Yes, sex is also about love, intimacy, child rearing, stress relief, and occasionally getting a good mark. But in my opinion (worth nearly as much as a pogo stick at Christopher Reeves' house), most people don't give a shit about the emotional aspect of lovemaking and are only interested in the physical act.

And no, I don't only mean men—I know of plenty of girls whose thoughts on sex would make Larry Flynt blush. This "men are pigs" bullshit better be shelved real quick. Have you ever heard a group of girls talking about guys? There's more dirty talk going around than the pitch meeting for the new Ron Jeremy flick.

But I digress. If sex is such a silly trifle and often completely shallow, why do college folk seem in such a

hurry to get our collective swerve on, me included?

Bragging rights? Even Hitler had a girlfriend. You're not breaking any new ground just because you've got regular fornication sessions.

Just feeling horny? Sure, that may be an excuse for one night's reckless screwing, but if you're doing a different person every weekend because "I was just in the mood" then you're not a human—you're Wilt Chamberlain and probably need some medical attention.

Embarrassed by the fact that you're a virgin? If it bothers you that much, just do what I do when my friends talk about sex: lie through your mother-fucking teeth.

So, there you have it—in a poorly written, obtuse sort of way. Sex is crazy, and you can never really predict when you'll get some, unless of course you're in prison, in which case it will probably be in the shower or when your bitch runs out of cigarettes.

What I'm saying is, don't worry about it. Intimate relations are not the end-all and be-all of our young lives. I'm very slowly learning that. And if all else fails, there is always sweet, sweet porno.

Dave Alexander's TOP TEN Great ways to blow a job interview

- 10 Keep referring to yourself as "the most bestest" candidate for the job.
- 9 Dive to the ground, get up and ask, "Was that a police siren?"
- 8 Ask the interviewer if she's ever tried a different dandruff shampoo.
- 7 Before the interview, draw glasses and a moustache on yourself with black felt pen.
- 6 Ask a lot of questions about the company's fire insurance.
- 5 Bring a reference letter from Jesus.
- 4 Ask how many sick days you get per week.
- 3 When asked why you applied for the position, reply, "What are you, my fuckin' dad?"
- 2 Ask about the talent portion of the interview, then burst into a rendition of Donna Summers' "She Works Hard for the Money."
- 1 Excuse yourself to go to the bathroom, then without moving, grunt, sigh, smile, and say, "Thank you."

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Don't be fooled—racism is as bad as ever



Siyani Nsaliwa

There's a certain complacency that borders on racism that I've noticed with my involvement with the former Black Students' Association (now called the Students of African, Caribbean and Canadian Heritage).

Working the info tables in HUB, I've heard people defensively remark about how there should be a White Students' Association too. They say that, in this day and age, there's not much need for a Black students' group. But, of course, they're missing the point entirely.

The prevailing perception is that overt racism does not exist and nobody believes that any race is biologically superior to another anymore. Hence, when a minority appears to be angry at the establishment, those of privileged background view this as laziness or empty venting. Is this because institutional racism is so subtle we can hardly comprehend its manifestation in society today?

I mean, if you grew up watching *The Cosby Show*, you might view the Cosbys' affluence as something that can be achieved by minorities. It's just a matter of working hard enough. And of course, the "icing" and "bling bling" (materialism in hip-hop lingo) in hip-hop videos is really promoting the perception that minorities have made it—the rappers have the money but where is the wealth? Half the rappers live in rented apartments!

If you have the "Cosby syndrome" then ask yourself this: why is it that statistics show that Blacks make for some of the best educated people in this country, and yet most hold among the most humbling positions in our community? Why is it that with an increasing Aboriginal population in the next few years, it is being projected that their representation in the prison system will also increase, instead

Racism has only changed into a more subversive form; it's no less present now than it has ever been before.

of trying to focus on improving welfare in that community? Why are people, in Canada, still driving around with the confederate flag on their car, despite its racist connotations?

And then there is the Eminem controversy. Speaking without any authority and not necessarily as a proponent of Em's lyrics (but with at least ten years as a fan in the rap game), I have to say I like Eminem's skills. One of my favourite rhymes from Em was about how Caucasian kids are allowed by the rap community to buy records, but the second they get on the mic, they're booed off.

I like this rhyme because Em makes a good point about being treated differently because of his skin colour. But isn't it ironic that the same reason he was being booed off the stage is getting him top publicity? (Okay, so it's not the most flattering publicity, but tell that to Mr Eminem's bank account).

Don't tell me that you really think all this controversy is because

Eminem is the best rapper who ever lived—who just happens to be saying some stuff about homosexuals and women that all the other "really nice" rappers in the game have never said. It's odd that the mainstream media focuses on this one white guy when such derogatory remarks in rap have been going on for years with relatively minimal publicity. It's almost like when Blacks and Latinos say it, it's the norm, they're *supposed* to be like that anyway. But as soon as a white kid blows up the spot with the same type of rhymes, all hell breaks loose.

Eminem almost didn't perform in Toronto when he came with Limp Bizkit because of all of the controversy. Yet he had been there a few months before with Dre, Snoop, Ice Cube and company on the Up In Smoke tour. Where was the media then?

The problem is that people think racism is dead. But racism has only changed into a more subversive form; it's no less present now than it has ever been before.

THE BURLAP SACK

To the fucker who vandalized my two vehicles on Friday night: I hope something heavy and sharp falls on your head in the near future. I want you to run your car into a telephone pole at a high speed. I hope you are shunned and ostracized from your community. I hope your girlfriend dumps you on your ugly, sorry, loser ass and takes all the furniture so that all you're left with for a kitchen table is a cardboard box. I hope you can't get a job because people can see what a horrible and destructive human being you are. You misrepresent people in general.

Huge money and time has gone into your few minutes of fun. Thus far I've missed 18 hours of work at \$10 per hour (\$180), the towing bills when all is said and done (\$200), one smashed window and dented door on the as-yet-uninsured red car (\$300), two smashed windows, rip in the dashboard, and damaged door on the green

one (\$950). Total monetary cost: \$1630.

The emotional cost is more. You took tiles from my building steps and damaged my two vehicles right in front of my home. I'm afraid to walk home alone—what if that had been my head instead of my cars?

What frustrates me the most is that you'll never get caught. You'll probably brag about this to your equally stupid friends and all laugh in an overly stupid manner. Go to hell and stop by Retardland to claim your hard-earned status as premium piece of shit.

Good job. You deserve it.

MEREDITH PORTER

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where, a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten, is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered (except today).



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Canada

Bears head out for third consecutive title

Golden Bears hockey team predict finest performance of the season in defending the University Cup title



Bears goaltender Clayton Pool is used to taking pressure, but he expects the level to be jacked up this weekend.

Collin Gallant
SPORTS STAFF

Just ask Golden Bears captain Ryan Marsh and he'll give you his prediction for the upcoming University Cup: three tough games and three big wins.

The Bears held their last full practice Monday before leaving Tuesday for a date with the country's best teams to defend their

national championship tradition in Kitchener, Ontario.

The Bears are coming off a week of practice, their fourteenth and fifteenth consecutive weeks atop the national rankings after earning a tournament berth by beating the Manitoba Bisons in a hard-fought series.

The Canada West Champions, who enter the tournament as the number-one seed and early favourites, are confident but aren't taking

anything for granted.

"I'm expecting some tough games against the best teams in the country," said Marsh, who is in his fifth and final year of eligibility. The rugged defenceman hopes to put the finishing touch on his university career with a third straight national championship title.

"They'll be some tight games, but hopefully there'll be three more wins."

This sentiment is echoed by

Marsh's teammates.

"Everyone's going to be aiming at us, but that's been happening all year and we've responded well," said Clayton Pool, whose backstopping played a big part in the Bears' near-perfect season. Pool vocalized the team's attitude that the Bears will have to make their own destiny: "We're going to worry about our game and take care of ourselves first."

Head coach Rob Daum knows the tournament won't be a cakewalk, but feels his team is up for the challenge. He also feels his team continues to improve.

[Against Manitoba] we were tense early on in game one. Hopefully we got it out of our system. At a national tournament you can't afford to have half a game where you're uneasy. ... It's basically sudden death. You may not recover.

— Rob Daum,
head coach, Golden Bears

"[Against Manitoba] we were tense early on in game one," said Daum of the eventual 5-1 victory. "Hopefully that got it out of our system. At a national tournament you can't afford to have half a game where you're uneasy. ... It's basically sudden death. You may not recover."

Daum is also confident about

the Bears' reaction to unfamiliar teams. To minimize any surprises, the coaching staff has spent a good part of the last week scouting.

Everyone's going to be aiming at us, but that's been happening all year and we've responded well. We're going to worry about about game and take care ourselves first.

— Clayton Pool,
starting goalie, Golden Bears

"[Throughout the year] we've played different teams that use different systems, and proved that we have enough versatility to deal with it," said Daum, who won't be making any major changes to suit the competition. "We are prepared to play our own game and not let the tone of the game be dictated by our opponents. Basically, we're not going to reinvent the wheel at this time of year."

The team will fly out Tuesday afternoon bound for Kitchener. The Bears play Friday against either Western or St FX and Saturday against the other. Both games are at 11:00am local time. Alberta's second game will be televised on TSN, as will the tournament's final game (Sunday, 1:00pm).

If you'd rather, turn down the TV's volume and turn up CJSR (FM88.5), which will broadcast all Alberta games with longtime broadcaster Bob Stauffer with play-by-play.

Winger Kevin Marsh is keeping things positive

Barrie Tanner
SPORTS EDITOR

"Just playing hockey."

That's what Kevin Marsh likes best about being part of the Golden Bears hockey team. He's not one for fanfare or all the other trappings that generally come with being a member of a varsity team; the closest thing to a pre-game ritual is wearing the same GCM Tacks and using an aluminum stick, a tradition he has continued since he was 15.

But Marsh does a lot more than just play hockey: he excels at it. He currently leads the team in playoff scoring, most notably with a three-point weekend against Manitoba in the Canada West Final two weeks ago. He scored the game-winning goal in the series opener, then put the nail in Manitoba's coffin with an empty-net gimme in the final game of the series that put the Bears up 3-1.

Marsh's successes aren't limited to the playoffs. During the 2000/2001 regular-season campaign, he went 17-25-42 in 34 games and became a consistent offensive threat as the season wore on.

Marsh began his hockey career at age four when his parents enlisted him in their hometown hockey program. He worked his

way up, finding his way to the Western Hockey League, where his name could have been found on the rosters of the Calgary Hitmen, the Red Deer Rebels, and the Kelowna Rockets. He was even drafted to the Hartford Whalers in 1996.

But Marsh's best decision to date, he maintains, is becoming a Golden Bear. "I was 20 years old and in the WHL when I knew I wanted to go to school and play hockey," said Marsh.

He had offers from Calgary and several schools in the east, but turned them down for an opportunity to play with the program he wanted and, almost as importantly, to be near his family.

"All I wanted was that letter from the U of A," said Marsh. He got that invitation and hasn't looked back since. The second-year forward names his family as some of his big supporters, perhaps even his number-one fans.

"I don't think my parents have missed a game in two years, and my grandparents are out almost every weekend," said Marsh.

Marsh sees his place on the team as being the happy face in the locker room, the one who has a smile regardless of the situation.

"I bring an easy-going attitude to the team," maintains Marsh. "I try to stay positive all the time and have fun. You have to have fun and



Kevin Marsh's hockey career has led him to the Golden Bears, where he continues to prove his abilities.

stay happy to be successful in this game."

"Kevin brings a lot of speed to the Golden Bears," said Bears captain Ryan Marsh (no relation). "He's the glue that keeps his line together."

That line is Massimo Provenzano, Kevin Marsh and Mike "Goose" McGhan, who have stepped it up after a somewhat trying early pre-Christmas outing to become a consistent force.

"We kind of had a tough start," said Marsh, still in the recovery stage from a shoulder operation last summer.

Similarly, McGhan has spent most of the season recovering from successive back and concussion injuries, yet the line has blossomed in the last half with strong efforts from all quarters, including offensive powerhouse Massimo Provenzano.

Marsh's future has the Golden Bears hockey program woven into it, assuming he sticks around for the next three years of his eligibility.

"If all goes well, I'll be able to use it all up," said Marsh. With a National Championship ring already, he'll be the one looking for four more in the years to come. And if not, he'll know at least he had fun trying.

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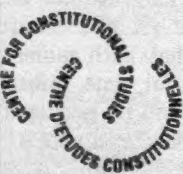
We want to know how we've done this year because, well, if the readers ain't happy, then we are in trouble.

In the near future, we should have some sort of survey for you kids to fill out and return to us, but for those of you who want to get a head start, here's how you can yell at us:

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The 13th McDonald Lecture
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Dean, Osgoode Hall Law School - York University

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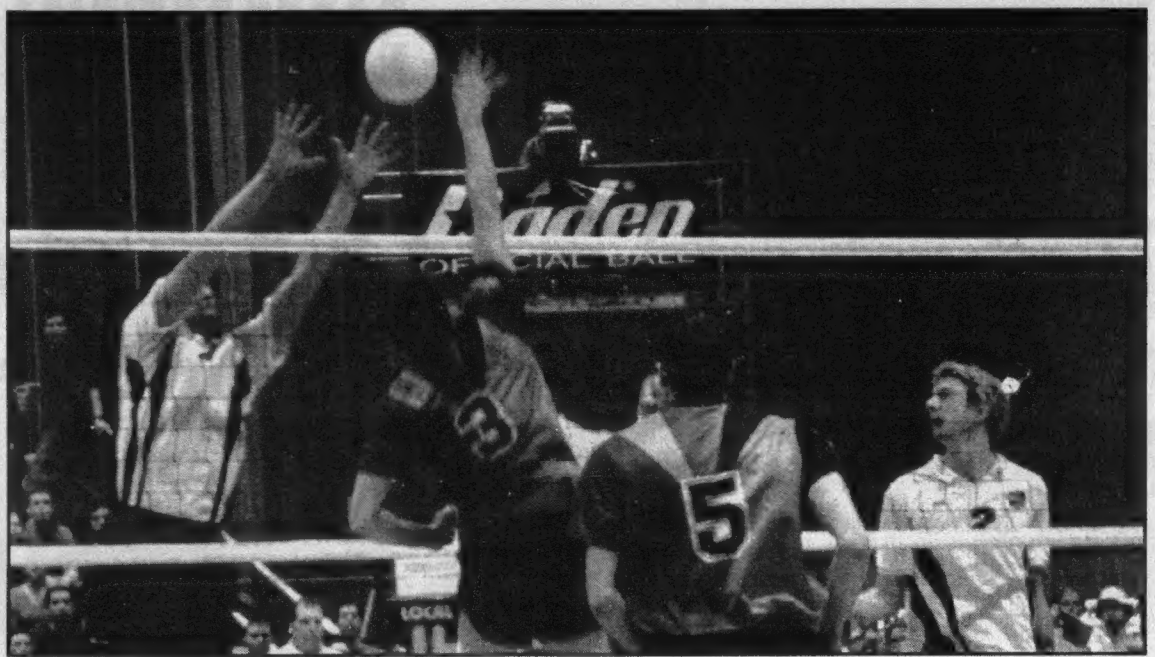
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Peter W. Hogg, O.C., L.S.M., O.C., LL.B. (New Zealand), LL.M. (Harvard), Ph.D. (Monash), FRSC, Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of New Zealand and Victoria, and of the Bar of Ontario. Canada's leading constitutional law scholar, Professor Hogg is the author of *Constitutional Law of Canada*, *Liability of the Crown* and *Principles of Canadian Income Tax Law*, as well as other monographs and articles. He has acted as consultant to the federal government and provincial governments and to various public bodies and private law firms. He has also appeared as counsel in constitutional litigation before the Courts,



Impact Campus

For the ninth time in their history, the 'prairie powerhouse' Manitoba Bisons have clinched the volleyball gold.

U of M Bisons do it again

Representing the West, Bisons take national men's volleyball title

Jonathan Gendron
IMPACT CAMPUS

QUEBEC CITY (PUIQ/CUP) — By beating Laval University's Rouge et Or in the finals of the CIAU men's volleyball championship, the University of Manitoba Bisons achieved the feat for a second consecutive year.

The national champions beat the University of Saskatchewan last year to be crowned Canada's best university team.

Before reaching the final, the Bisons swept the University of Western Ontario Mustangs and the University of Calgary Dinos in six consecutive sets on the previous Friday and Saturday.

This is the ninth national title for the prairie powerhouse, who recorded an impressive 34 victories and only three losses during the 2000-2001 season.

While the top-ranked Bisons had four new players on their starting six this year, they could count on Garth Pischke's return from the Canadian national team, where he had been since 1997.

Pischke said his team was well prepared to face Laval University's partisan crowd.

"It was a very emotional game. The crowd was incredible and we manipulated pressure in a surprising way," he said.

Mike Munday, selected the tournament's most valuable player, said his team was able to over-

come the odds placed on defending champions. "We were every team's target. As we were ranked number one, we had to play with a lot of heart to win," said Munday.

Teammate Pete Turpin, who blocked an outstanding 30 attacks during the tournament, agreed: "Pressure was always on us, and we continually had to prove we were number one," said the six-foot-eight giant.

Seven of the Bisons' 15 players were participating in their second consecutive national tournament.

"It's really special for me to win a second national championship," said Brian Emms, who finished his fifth year of varsity sports on top. "I couldn't ask for a better end to my university career."

Time management largest barrier to exercise

Jackie Gough
THE GAZETTE

HALIFAX — University students, business travellers and other people who are highly constricted by time often have trouble making it to the gym as much as their bodies need it. What is the answer to this universal problem? Time management.

When writing your weekly schedule you shouldn't leave out your workout time, says Halifax fitness professional Darren Steeves. Treat exercise as a job. You can't be late for it and must not miss it, unless you're sick.

It is funny how we can fit *Survivor*, *Passions* and many others of our favourite television shows into our schedule but still we have no time for exercise.

Steeves says, "I have never seen anyone who was committed to an exercise program for a year that hasn't seen the results they wanted to."

Weight reduction, strength building and cardiovascular work are

only some reasons why people have a personal trainer. Anyone who wants to be sure that they are doing the right exercise for their bodies should see one. "We are here to make sure that you maximize your goals," Steeves says of his job.

5 tips to remember for exercise

- 1 Plan your week ahead.
- 2 Find a convenient location: pick a place that you have easy access to.
- 3 Get a workout buddy: both of you will keep each other on track.
- 4 Business people should use a special program: this is ideal for when you travel.
- 5 Have fun: make sure you enjoy the exercise and vary what you do.

Steeves explains that the two things he needs to teach his clients are exercise science and exercise psychology. Exercise science

is about problems like osteoporosis and hypertension. Exercise psychology is what he can say to motivate a client or change their thought on a certain part of their exercise. The goal is to eliminate the psychology and focus on the science.

The first session consists of a client consultation, where the personal trainer discovers the clients' problems and then they jointly define goals. A fitness assessment can be done for those who want to know their fitness level when they start the program.

A couple of days later you can meet up with the personal trainer, who will show you an individualized program. After this he will put it into action. It's a good idea to meet once a week to ensure the best success.

After a period of time, you will sit down with your personal trainer and assess what you have done so far. This is your chance to change the program so that your exercises fit your new, improved fitness needs.

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ROOM AT THE TOP



Gang Tapes brings raw documentary realism to Local Heroes

Adam Ripp's debut uses digital video and former gang members to create 'the most realistic gang film ever made'

INTERVIEW

Adam Ripp

Director of *Gang Tapes*
Local Heroes
International Film Festival
Princess Theatre
20 March, 9:30pm

Owen Livermore
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

"I wanted to make the most realistic gang film ever made," director Adam Ripp explains as he bites into a Cajun chicken wing.

He is taking a much-needed respite from the film festival world, full of its cell phones and organizers with fluorescent orange nametags. Ripp and producer David Goodman are in Edmonton to discuss and screen their movie *Gang Tapes* at the Local Heroes film festival. The independent film provides a gritty look into the gang scene of South Central Los Angeles.

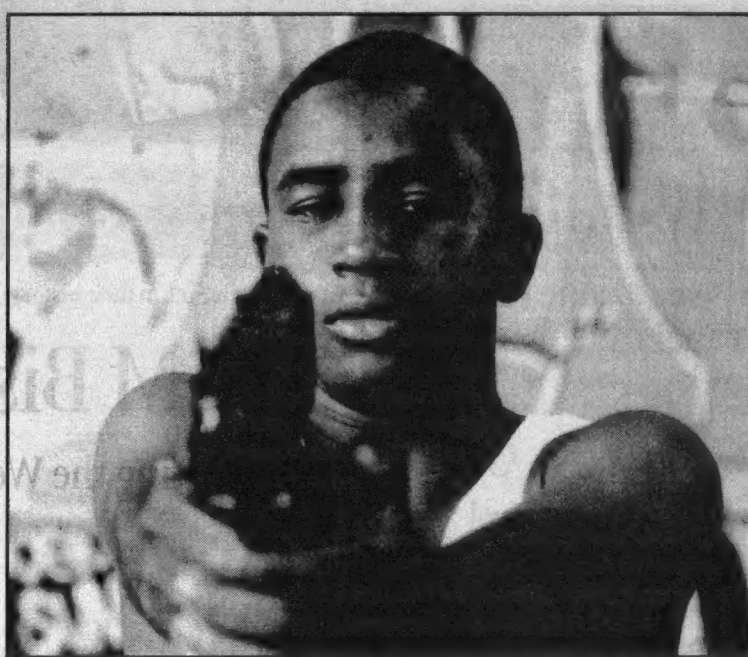
The world of the film is framed by a video camera that passes violently from a Caucasian, middle-class family to a group of gang-

bangers. The young one of the group, Kris (Trivell) begins to catalogue his day-to-day experiences: a whirlwind of sex, drugs, and death. His two peers are Alonzo (Darris Love), a father figure/drug dealer, and Cyril (Darontay McClendon), an experienced and frustrated ex-con. As Kris rides with his gang, the camera surveys the vast urban sprawl of Los Angeles.

Over time, the excess of grey overpasses and chain-link fences begins to suffocate the viewer. There is no easy escape from the gang environment.

The young men in the film can speak from experience. The casting for *Gang Tapes* focused on bringing in actors who in some way have a connection with LA gangs, past or present. The move is more that just the result of a failed attempt to land big stars like Lawrence Fishburne or Ice T.

"I want to see real people," Ripp comments. "Suppose I were to cast Cuba Gooding Jr. I don't care how great of a fucking actor Cuba Gooding Jr is, you would have never been able to put that physicality, that experience, across." The final



product in the film is a collection of honest performances that serve as a counterpoint to urban films such as *Menace II Society* or *Boyz n the Hood*.

That said, the film walks the line of representation, dangerously close to slipping into stereotypes. The depiction of brutal violence

perpetrated by Black gang members becomes even more dangerous in the hands of a Caucasian director such as Ripp. However, this danger is the right environment for the film to work on the viewer.

Somehow appropriately, the filming on location in South Central

occurred during one of the bloodiest turf wars to hit in years. In fact, two cast members had people close to them killed during the course of the two-week shoot. Ripp sought to capture this mood in the film.

"I look at this film as two things: as a coming-of-age story about a young boy in search of a father figure as well as a war film. These kids are growing up, and with the amount of death and violence that occurs in this neighbourhood, it is a war zone."

The narrative of *Gang Tapes* unravels like an authentic home video, complete with shoddy editing. The "home video" aesthetic, while not visually soothing, gives punch to the documentary feel of the film. It's a strong choice that would be lessened with a high-quality, widescreen picture. It also may or may not jive with mainstream audiences.

Ripp, however, is confident: "Audiences right now can make the leaps to understand the language of filmmaking, and they don't need to be set up or to be hit over the head with certain things. Audiences are very intelligent."

U of A grad Lois Brown returns to Edmonton with *Bingo Robbers*

INTERVIEW

Lois Brown

Director of *Bingo Robbers*
Local Heroes
International Film Festival
Princess Theatre
20 March, 7:00pm

Erika Thorkelson
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

The role of bingo in feature filmmaking is probably not understood or appreciated by most, but U of A grad Lois Brown wants to change that. Her debut work revolves around the pastime.

"We wanted to make a movie about two people who can't stop talking," explains Brown, "but we had to find something for them to do, something urgent, so we looked in the phone book and came to 'b' for bingo halls." That revelation spawned the premise for *Bingo Robbers*, a film about two 35-year-old wannabe bank robbers, Nancy and Vallis, whose efforts to make fast cash by robbing anywhere in site are constantly foiled by their obsession with analysis.

Brown's calm, fluid, voice differs greatly from that of the hysterical Nancy whom she plays in the film. She speaks from her office in Newfoundland, on the other side of Canada, where colourful phrases and quirky independent films grow like sea monkeys in a fish tank.

She says that her directorial strategy was to work to construct a fluid rhythm instead of forcing the action into the confines of a unified plot. "Rather than deal with



the structure, we put it together thematically," she says.

The result is a maze of tangents that carry the story in and out of restaurants, clubs, bingo parlors, a convenience store, up a ladder, and out a second story window. "Tangents were part of the rhythm of the story, even if they don't always fit into the plot," she asserts.

Bingo Robbers is Brown's directorial film debut after fifteen years of writing and directing for the stage, following her graduation from the U of A.

Along with Barry Newhook (Vallis), who has been a presence in the St John's arts community for more than 18 years, Brown is also writer and star of this feature length black comedy. It was both artists who came up with the film's bingo-themed finale.

For the two rookie filmmakers, getting financing was difficult, but luckily advances in technology

allowed them to film in digital format for a lower cost.

Brown links the growth of inexpensive, easy to attain equipment like digital cameras to a change in the way films are being made. "Entertainment and communication are the fastest growing industries ... Something different is happening in the way people tell stories." At the very least, there are more people able to get their stories told.

Originally intended for television, *Bingo Robbers* combines the look and tone of a music video (including frequent uses of fast forward) with the pace of a stage play. Though the dialogue is snappy and original, it does tend to drag when the soundtrack dies down and the action stops. As is often the nature of actors and directors that move from stage to screen, the style tends to become overly large for the format.

Indeed, the long philosophical discussions about, for instance, whether a gun is an icon or a synecdoche seem stiff and unnatural on the screen where they may have translated as more surreal in a stage play. Often, the characters' philosophical posturing often leaves one wondering when something is going to happen to push the action along.

Bingo Robbers may have translated better to television than to film but the quirky dialogue and characters do give it an original edge. Lois Brown believes that this is important. "It shows St John's from a different perspective; most films focus on the Irish culture, this one just uses it as a context."



Amores Perros a 'brilliant' film

FILM REVIEW

Amores Perros

Local Heroes
International Film Festival
Garneau Theatre
21 March, 7:00pm

Kris Berezanski
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Amores Perros, roughly translated as "love's a bitch," is a perfect description of the message of this movie.

A Mexican film up for best foreign film at the Oscars, *Perros* follows the same narrative technique of movies such as *Go* and *Traffic*, by putting together the trials of love in three stories that intersect in a devastating car crash. The movie pulls the viewer in and does not give up until the final scene. Highlighted by brilliant, believable characters and a story that highlights the greed of humanity, *Amores Perros* is a movie that Edmonton should be proud to have at their film festival.

First time director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu gives a debut with one of the best movies to come out of Mexico ever. The script, written by Guillermo Arriaga, is com-

plex yet understanding, deep but not too deep to confuse audiences or drive them away. *Amores Perros* happens to be 155 minutes long, but every second is enjoyable as truly entertaining cinematic fare.

All the credit can not be given to the people behind the scenes, however. Alvaro Guerrero as Daniel, a guerilla who cannot get away from his natural instincts even after becoming a vagrant, gives the most transforming and mesmerizing performance of all the actors.

Also impressive is Gael Garcia Bernal as Octavio, who shows how deep love can really go, betting all of his money on dog fights to run away with his brother's wife, played by Vanessa Bauche.

The intertwining of increasingly complicated love stories fleshed out by multi-dimensional characters draws the viewer in to the narrative so deftly that the two-and-a-half-hour film seems much shorter.

Highly recommended, this may be the best film playing at Local Heroes. A word of warning though: if animal violence is too disturbing for you, I suggest you pass on it. But other than that, *Amores Perros* is amazing film that deserves recognition as one of the top international films.



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The inevitable return of SNFU Punky's back in *Girl's Room*

GIG REVIEW

SNFU
Stars
17 March

Heather Adler
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

"Are there any fucking leprechauns in the house tonight?" asked Chi Pig, lead singer of former Edmonton punk rock outfit, SNFU, at Saturday night's St Patrick's Day gig.

Although I didn't spot any mystical little green men hiding pots of gold or hawking sugar-coated, novelty-shaped marshmallow cereal on this evening, there certainly were some strange happenings that left me wondering just what kind of magical fluids everyone around me had been consuming.

The show started off on an average note as drunken revelers waited at the front of the stage and chanted for the appearance of the middle-aged rockers. Just after midnight the band appeared bringing with them a treasure chest of props and a promise of juvenile delinquency that would have been impressive even for a band half their age.

Chi Pig kicked things off with the first of many fast, hard, loud songs and also broke out the first of many bizarre, disturbing, and at times (dare I say) painful stage props. He twirled a long black Irish-looking cane out over the crowd as he scrambled from side to side of the stage. His elfish stature, wild hair, and twitching movements were

appropriately reminiscent of a cartoonish Leprechaun.

A few minutes later he had a rather abused-looking puppet head fastened to his fist, which he pumped enthusiastically into the increasingly rowdy horde of people below. Now, I must admit I'm unsure of the greater St Patrick's Day statement that was being made with this one but I think it may have had something to do with the 1789 Irish rebellion, which left thousands slain and a reign of terror over the country. Either that or it just looked cool.

After a brief introduction to the next song, Chi donned a rubber pig mask to keep in the festive spirit of things. At this point, the floor of the club was engulfed in a frenzy of what passed for moshing, but looked a lot more like a brawl as sweaty guys pushed, shoved and slammed into one another.

Next out of the sack-o-stage-tricks was a plate full of carrots that were individually chucked into the crowd, rebounding off unsuspecting partygoers. He then got out a couple of cans of whipped cream for a liberal dessert-dousing. During the next few songs he continued to hammer the crowd with various pieces of foliage (cauliflower and carrots) and even doused several people with pitchers of "magical green liquid."

I think everyone took the time to reminisce about the great Irish potato famine and were grateful for the opportunity to partake in such a flamboyant use of their favorite food groups. Well, either that or it just looked cool.

They also distributed pink carna-



Chris Govias / THE GATEWAY

Chi Pig made a real pig of himself at the St Patrick's Day SNFU show.

tions, pranced about in purple butterfly masks, and acted as a lost and found for people who had dropped their cell phones/glasses/ID into the wild pit. Somehow, in between the bouts of insanity, the band managed to hack its way through a long set mixed with both new and old material.

It was loud; it was rowdy; it was weirder than dropping acid in the netherworld. In other words, SNFU's stage show just looked cool.

FILM REVIEW

The Girl's Room
Local Heroes
International Film Festival
Directed by Irene Turner
Starring Soleil Moon Frye,
Cat Taber, and Wil Weaton
Princess Theatre
21 March, 7:00pm

Adam Rozenhart
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

I like to think I know a thing or two about modern-day moviegoers. In fact, if I were to sum up peoples' feelings about film today, I'd probably say, "I hate Wesley Crusher"—that pesky little dork who was always pissing off Captain Picard and always trying to get with Counselor Troi on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*.

Well, before I begin to tell you about the film *The Girl's Room*, I need you to promise to set aside your hatred for this poor actor and listen-up.

The first thirty minutes are quite archaic. The viewer is assaulted with strangely cut-scenes, choppy action, little character development and poorly-edited music. Thankfully, this doesn't persist throughout the film, and we are eventually treated to both a plot and some decent acting.

The film is an odd-couple pairing of two girls. They're roommates and they hate each other. Moreover, they are struggling to decide what to do with their lives after college. Grace (Cat Taber) has decided precisely what she wants to do: gradu-

ate, and have a huge wedding paid for by her father. However, as many of you know, you have to pass your classes to graduate and this simply cannot be accomplished when you fail a midterm.

Unfortunately, this is precisely what happens to Grace when roommate Casey (Soleil Moon "Punky Friggin' Brewster" Frye) steals her notebook the night before her test.

What ensues is a plot of revenge on Grace's part with counter-attacks by Casey. The movie unfolds in a rather predictable way, a few twists and turns aside. In the end, Grace and Casey become friends, and the two advise one another on how they think their futures should progress. Grace stays with her man (that Wesley Crusher kid) and Casey decides to stop being a complete bitch.

Strong performances help make up for the lacklustre plot. The character of Casey, an angst-ridden goth, is intriguing and believable, while Grace, the southern daddy's girl, is also well-rounded.

Although the film progresses predictably and the ending is your basic happily-ever-after finale, I found myself drawn into the narrative by the interesting characters, some really great shooting locations, and the fact that most of the cast seems to be carbon copies of the people from *Party of Five*.

If you're into warm fuzzies, you'll probably like *Girl's Room*. If you've been yearning to see Punky Brewster again, well, hey, added bonus. But you'll have to suffer through the presence of that cursed, cursed Wesley Crusher, and that's a lot to ask.

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Kim Mulder / THE GATEWAY

Throughout a three-section ensemble, the Trip Dance Company dazzled.

Lying With John a stand-out

Dark comedy prevalent in Brian Webb show

DANCE REVIEW

Lying With John

by the Trip Dance Company
presented by the
Brian Webb Dance Company
Artistic Director: Karen Kuzak
16 and 17 March

Kelly Korpesio

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

The Brian Webb Dance Company's slogan reads "the body speaks to us through its athletic potential," a statement that summarizes not only the appeal of their performances for fans of artistic dance, but also for new fans that can appreciate their shows merely for the displays of physical prowess.

Last Saturday, the Trip Dance Company performed three duets, including *Lying With John*, that were an excellent display of this. The dances performed by Randy Joynt and Linnea Swan were obscure and creative. The two powerful artists delivered the intricate duets with intriguing effect. *Lying With John* was intimate, like peeking into a neighbour's window and catching them in their underwear.

Karen Kuzak's choreography, though very different in each piece, held one thing in common through each dance. The two main characters were very independent, each telling his or her side of the same story. Combined with the intimate nature that the duets involved, often depicting physical attraction or repulsion, I was left feeling uncertain as to the relationship between the two dancers, which made the performance so strangely intriguing.

The performance was playful

and dark at the same time as the two dancers moved like children to Elton John's "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road," playfully moving through a field of sunflowers. When the piece ended, there was a prevalent feeling of emptiness. The two dancers were separate and the final note sounded low, like lost innocence.

In the next section, *Winter of 1966*, the stage was dark with shadows and Linnea carried a single suitcase, symbolizing her journey. The overall impression of the routine was that of a dark comedy.

There was no humour at all in the next performance, *Godspeed*, but rather a graceful conclusion to the evening of dance. It was heavy in tone, and one of Kuzak's favourites, created following the death of her best friend in 1995.

Preceding this past weekend's show, Kuzak anticipated seeing the dance on stage in order to witness how it has evolved over time. As the duo moved like morbid marionettes to the tune of "Amazing Grace," the audience was held captive by the depth of emotion in the piece.

The dance was evocative, as the dancers moved symmetrically, their limbs like mechanical, disjointed doll parts. Feathers laid softly like white clouds on the black stage brought to life the beautiful yet sullen image of a fallen angel. Not a bright note, but a tender one to conclude the evening.

While those familiar with a background and/or understanding of artistic dance could undoubtedly appreciate the subtleties of the performance, it was the grace and dexterity of the physical movements that lent it a basic appeal. *Lying With John* lived up to its slogan as the athletic proficiency of the dancers spoke volumes.

Exit Wounds Seagal's 'finest'?

FILM REVIEW

Exit Wounds

Directed by
Andrzej Bartkowiak
Starring Steven Seagal
and DMX
Now Playing

Geoff Moysa
Adam Rozenhart
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall. Steven Seagal and DMX? This last pair isn't likely to be thought of as a classic silver screen duo anytime soon, but they do happen to star in a brainless action flick called *Exit Wounds* that is just tongue-in-cheek enough to work.

Geoff: The tone for the evening was set when the well-intentioned screening announcer hailed the movie as "Steven Seagal's finest." This proclamation caused everyone in attendance to erupt in laughter, as it very well should have.

Adam: Whether or not the screening announcer was making an attempt to kick-off her stand-up career is still unclear. However, one thing is certain: this probably wasn't Seagal's worst film. I attribute this to the all-star cast of DMX, Tom Arnold, and yes, even the bald guy from *Murder One*.

And even if it wasn't the worst, it still started out in the same way as most other action films. A rogue cop blows shit up and saves a major American politician in the process.

Geoff: It might be instructive to note that this film was shot in Calgary, so you get a nice scenic shot of Seagal throwing said politician over a bridge into the Bow River, not to mention product shots from Tim Horton's and Quizno's. I'm surprised Wayne Gretzky wasn't in this, endorsing products for Advil or Esso or whoever else is taping his stick these days, if you know what I mean.

Anyway, Seagal gets demoted for his dangerously heroic antics and ends up working at a rowdy and violent precinct. It's here he gets wind of a huge drug racket that he can't help but try to bust up because, hey, he's the man.

Adam: Turns out the whole operation is internal (can you believe it? Corrupt cops!) and DMX, who was originally thought to be leader of this drug racket is actually the owner of a dot-com company. I'm not sure why this is relevant to the film, besides nerd community appeal. It may have something to do with the fact that the film is an AOL Time-Warner production, but I digress.

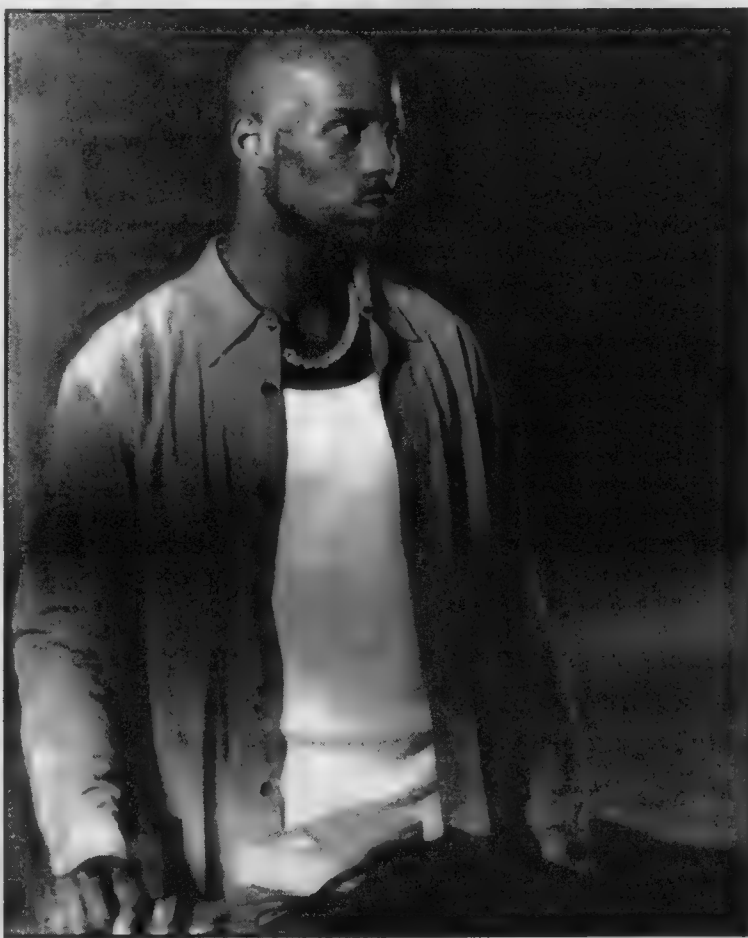
What you end up getting out of the film is a wild gun-fighting scene at the end, with good cops, led by the bald guy from *Murder One* (who, for some reason is black in this movie) and corrupt cops, led by the "before-guy" on those Philishave ads.

Geoff: So how does it stack up? Pretty well, if you can tell the logical part of your brain to shut up for a couple of hours. The violence is frequent and decently executed, and the acting isn't terrible, either. Not surprisingly, this follows almost exactly the same formula of drugs, betrayal and redemption as last year's *Romeo Must Die*, since both films share the same director.

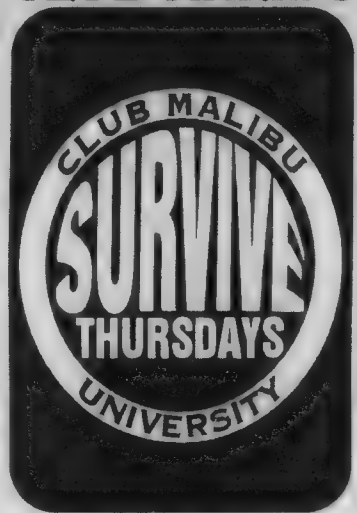
Adam: All in all, this is a terrific action movie, and like most action movies it's jam-packed with hilarious one-liners like "I've got something solid," and "That's my Sumo Negro." The best and most fitting line of all though comes from Seagal himself when he finally admits that he does bad films, and is a bad person: "What am I, a shit magnet?" However, that wasn't the best part of the movie at all. The best part was probably when the credits started rolling and we could go home.

Geoff: That was because during the credits, Tom Arnold and Anthony Anderson engage in one of the funniest and most ridiculous movie dialogues in recent memory. Tom even manages to slip in a not-so-subtle dig at his ex-wife and cake disposal unit Roseanne. You go, Tom.

Adam: While formulaic and often predictable, the film was thoroughly entertaining—both in terms of action and humour. And it proved one thing: Steven Seagal and DMX could dance circles around Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. Or at least bust a cap in their asses.



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POWER PLANTATION KUCHA

Aah! Those idiots! CBS has bought the rights to the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament. Thus, they've decided to move their top-rated show to Wednesday night! The nerve!

Not only that, but the producers have decided to stretch out the series so it will make it to sweeps

week. Thus, this week's episode will feature clips from previous episodes. To further build the hype, the Students' Union will be putting on a trivia contest in the Power Plant.

Two weeks ago, the two tribes merged to form the Barramundi tribe. I would have called it the Target tribe, or maybe Dorritos tribe, to keep the sponsorship money rolling in.

David Staples, my arch-nemesis from the *Edmonton Journal*, says now that one faction has the majority, they'll just leech off the Kucha players until they dwindle down to five members. However, Staples makes his mistake when he says this imbalance of power will drop the ratings of the show. Well, let's face it—it was getting a little predictable watching Ogakor lose every single challenge.

If the Ogakor do dominate the game, as it appears they are, the ratings will rise, because everybody will get really pissed off. I hate to think what the crowd at the

Power Plant will be like during the next screening.

Who will go next: Not Jerri. Despite what everybody wishes. She's safe, unless Elisabeth can convince one member of Ogakor to vote against Jerri, and she loses in a tie vote. However, that will not happen. Look for Elisabeth to get booted off.

My pick for last Survivor: If you ask me, I think Colby's out of danger's way, now that he's on the winning tribe. He'll be a favourite in the final four, where his virtues will shine true.

Survivor II airs in the Power Plant this week on Wednesday night at 8:00pm. Viewers are as always invited to cast their vote for who will be voted off the island, and who will remain at the end. Prizes are awarded in a draw. For those who missed last night's episode, it will be rebroadcast next week at 8:00pm.

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House Blend Seven
DJ Venom
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James Elford
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

With apparently six other House Blend CDs behind him, DJ Venom is serving up what he refers to as "hard house seasoned with progressive and booty with a side order of retrotech".

Unfortunately, this diet of 32 bite sized songs will leave you feeling

slightly nauseous if you take it all in one sitting.

Most of the songs blend into a nearly indistinguishable pile of sonic goo, as the continuously pounding computerized beat smashes all other sounds together.

To his credit, Venom does provide some aural medicine to deal with the heartburn his CD creates. Relief comes in the form of a few tracks that incorporate older songs with pounding rhythms. The best of these would have to be Darrin R's "Paranoid," which includes the ever-famous guitar from the Black Sabbath song blended smoothly with the hard house beat.

DJ Venom manages to succeed despite himself. Besides a fairly pedestrian stroll through "rave-orific" music, he manages to lay down a few solid beats and keep a solid flow that should get your booty shaking—at least until you get full and have cramps.



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Master P
Ghetto Postage
No Limit Records
www.nolimitrecords.com

Vanessa McLeod
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

I like re-mix packages. It's always exciting to see how someone interprets another's music. I personally think that whether the remix turns out great (like UFO's mix of "Homebase"), or not (the Hefner re-mix of "Slowhand Hussein"), it's still interesting to hear a different take on the original, especially in the context of an entire album.

The problem is that you have to start with a great album to re-mix. Luckily, *Freaks and Icons* is a great CD and it naturally paves the way for some very diverse remixes.

dZihan & Kamien are rare in that they have enough musical knowledge (particularly in Middle Eastern and Brazilian music), and talent that they can incorporate these elements in a very effective, funky-ass way.

Their music doesn't sound like it belongs to some honky using ethnic samples ineffectively.

Thievery Corporation, are you listening?

Hardcore hip-hop fans breathed a sigh of relief when Master P announced that his 1998 release *The Last Don*, would be his last solo recording ever. It was hoped that Master P's absence would result in one less untalented rapper spewing meaningless, braggadocious lyrics over tired and played out beats, thus raising the overall quality of rap music available.

Unfortunately, Master P quickly retracted his promise and re-emerged recently with yet another solo recording entitled *Ghetto Postage*. After listening to this album it's painfully obvious that he was too preoccupied with overseeing the mass-produced No Limit releases and setting up his very own No Limit Communication Service to spend any time improving his emceeing skills. The shallow lyrics over repetitious beats make this album detrimental to the advancement of hip-hop by feeding directly into the gangsta rap stereotype.



McAuley
My Heaven
DKD
www.dkd.com

Vanessa McLeod
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

more wholesome than multigrain bread? Perhaps the answer is McAuley, a quartet of brothers hailing from Ontario.

On their third release, *My Heaven*, they successfully dish out an upbeat, positive, slightly retro blend of soul and RnB music. Songs such as "How Do You Know" and "By The Way" are reminiscent of the early sounds of the Jackson 5 or New Edition. Besides being fine-tuned vocalists who specialize in harmony, these brothers are also talented songwriters.

The siblings are not just pretty-boy waiters hired to serve up others' creations, but rather they are the head-chefs responsible for their own delicious creations. McAuley's music is like a lovingly prepared musical feast.

Musically speaking, what is sweeter than a juicy mango and



Alien Ant Farm
ANTHology
New Noise
www.alienantfarm.com

Ryan Willman
 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Treading through the aftermath of the Papa Roach infestation, Alien Ant Farm comes marching in, following their predecessors in style, music label and even this weird bug fetish that the two bands sport.

It's almost like the insects of the world are using music groups as a front for their upcoming siege on us oppressing humans who have killed and tortured their kind for generations. That or I have to stop doing so many drugs.

Their debut, *ANTHology*, is just crawling with cryptic messages in a high-energy explosion of thundering guitars that rise to screaming peaks, stabbing at the heart and soul of rap-rock. AAF has succeeded in digging fresh content from hits of the past and churning out new twists on familiar hooks by adding their own style.

"Happy Death Day" is an interesting take on humanity, incorporating lines like "Papa's got a brand new death bag."

The real eyebrow raiser is the word-for-word, pumped-up rendition of Michael Jackson's "Smooth Criminal."

Thus, like flocks of genetically created sheep, Alien Ant Farm could be thought of as grave robbers with permits, but they do too good a job.

And can anyone blame them? I mean, they have renewed my deep-dark appreciation of Michel Jackson. Yikes.



Clutch
Jam Room
Spitfire Records
www.clutchgear.net

Kris Berezanski
 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

A metal album you can dance to?!? And I don't mean moshing or head-banging. Clutch has come through on their second release, *Jam Room*, and given metal new hope with funkified rhythms and whacked-out lyrics.

As a welcome change to the nu-metal fad, which is way past its prime, Clutch have the grooves to become a pioneer of a new metal scene taking lessons from Faith No More and our favourite '70s-influenced stoners, Fu Manchu.

With song titles like, "Big Fat Pig," "Gnome Enthusiast," and "Raised by Horses," this demented quartet are not to be taken seriously, but their music kicks some serious ass anyway. Metal fans take heed.

CULTURA OBSCURA



My Dad's Bong

James Elford
 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Most heirlooms are kept with the idea that they will help preserve family memories. My dad's bong, on the other hand, preserves family traditions that work against any kind of long-term memory.

What little of my teen years that I can remember includes stealing my dad's bong from his cabinet—a kind of youthful lack of respect for

personal property. After fighting my way past his pornography and liquor (always efficient, since my father kept it all in one spot), I managed to find this retro piece of drug history. Complete with a fake gold rim painted on its beer bottle brown exterior, the pipe was well worn and disgustingly unclear.

Although I can't imagine my father, with his pent-up white-collar suburban rage, ever smoking weed, I decided that this was a family tradition that should be carried on.

Unfortunately, the bong was broken somehow (no, honestly I really don't remember) and in my drug-induced stupor, I tried to repair it with masking tape. My father noticed this genius handiwork, as I forgot to move my disgrace from the middle of the kitchen table.

Still, my father was surprisingly introspective about losing this priceless piece of his youth. "You broke my fucking bong," he said. "I had that for years and didn't even spill it once."

SITE UNSEEN



<http://www.os.xaxon.ne.jp/~rini/sailor/sumo/index.htm>

Dave Alexander
 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

There are two ways of thinking about this website: either it's the last thing in the world you needed or wanted to see, or it's the thing you've always needed and wanted to see. Whatever the case, I guar-

antee you've never seen anything like it, not even on the 'Net.

Before you raise your eyebrow at the thought of porno, it has nothing to do with "fisting," "felching," or "mouthwash hedgehogs." In fact, it's kid-themed. Kid-themed in a very large transvestite kind of way.

This great Japanese site offers pictorial documentation of an event where Sumo wrestlers dress up as *Sailor Moon* characters and act out skits, I think.

With some appropriately cheezy music, you can gaze at these painted giants with awe. The photo captions include "Chibi Moon Was Saved," "Mars Fireball Charge," and "I'll Punish You."

Look no further for a reason to love Japanese culture. If everyone could take themselves this non-seriously, there would be no hatred, only big men dressed as female super heroes.

Awesome!

FREE STUFF

I jam, you jam, we all jam for Sno-Jam! Courtesy of BAD Concerts, we've got a pair of tickets to tonight's Sno-Jam show at Red's. If you want 'em, be the first student here at 4:00pm (and no sooner) today (Tuesday) with some jam. Ask for Dave Alexander and you just might have yourself two tickets for a hot punk show that features the likes of Sick of it All, AFI, and the Planet Smashers. Toe-jam not accepted.



Maren Ord
Waiting
Netwerk
www.marenord.com

Kate Rossiter
 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Edmonton singer/songwriter Maren Ord is on her way up. After months and months of anticipation for her debut album, she has released the aptly titled *Waiting*.

The disc starts off strong with "Perfect" and then "Sarah," which has received a lot of radio play recently. These two tracks are a

couple of the few catchy pop songs scattered throughout the disc, the most inventive of which is "Harsh Words," where Ord grows a little like Tegan and Sara. The song stands out from the rest of the album's soft melodic tracks.

Many of Ord's tunes, especially "Swallow" and "Speak" (the only piano melody), are so slow and lulling that they may put you to sleep. A similar dreamy feeling flows throughout "All I Want" and "Waiting," although they have a little more drive.

Not surprisingly, 19-year-old Ord's lyrics focus on love, encouragement, friendship, and beauty. Her guitar melodies, although they pull at the heart's most sensitive strings, still have some room to grow when compared to such Canadian treasures as Sarah McLachlan, Sarah Harmer, or Holly McNarland.

As a 19-year-old old major-label artist, however, she has plenty of time ahead of her to mature as a musician.



Have you found a summer job?

Check out the Supplement in today's Gateway for some tips. Also Hire-a Student and Youth Employment Strategy are bringing representatives on campus in SUB on March 28 and in HUB on March 29 to help you find a summer job. Plus CAPS, Youth Employment Strategy, and the Students' Union are hosting a brown bag lunch seminar on finding Summer Employment on March 16 from 12-12:50 at SUB room 4-02

The first student to come to the Gateway office (SUB 0-10A) will get a free "Job Survival Kit"



Canada



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STORY AND PHOTOS BY KIM MULDER

KICKING DEVIL BUTT

**EXORCIST BOB LARSON EASES
EDMONTONIANS' PAIN**

there are a lot of demons in Edmonton



**"Satan and the Devil-
realm are real,"**

Don Anhorn, an administrator with Bob Larson Ministries, states frankly over the very authentic din of fellow parishioners from the next room.

There is occasional laughter, murmurs of prayer, cheers of fervent praise to the Lord. There are also, however, certain chilling qualities of grunting and shrieking—moans expressed during the pain of so-called demon-manifestation—not often heard during church services.

We are in the lobby of the Southside Pentecostal Assembly on the third day of Larson's Edmonton conference. Anhorn has been explaining the basic principles of the Bob Larson brand of Evangelism, which includes exorcising possessed human spirits of their demonic burdens.

This healing, he says, is necessary for those who have been wounded, abused, or rejected, because it is these aspects of human misery which allow demonic possession to occur. Larson himself mentioned during Saturday afternoon's services that "Satan feeds off suffering and human brokenness."

It is the mission of his church and its particular form of Evangelism to restore men and women to a personal relationship with God, in order that they may be protected from the pain of demonic possession, he claims. Larson also says that there are a lot of demons in Edmonton and that speaking here never fails to yield particularly dramatic results.

Larson and his dedicated legions of DWJD (Do What Jesus Did) team members, now 40-strong across North America, are part of an Arizona-based movement seeking to deal with the manifested evil at work in the world.

An example of which, frequently made reference to over this weekend's conference, has been the disturbing outbreak of school shootings in the last several years, an issue the Larson Ministry as a whole claims mainstream Christian churches have failed to address.

Even a Catholic priest at the conference described the issue of evil acts perpetuating the cycle of demonic possession as being "swept under the rug."

The greatest opposition faced by the Ministry has come from those in the Christian church itself, whom Larson describes as having removed themselves from an area of greatest need, "sitting in ecclesiastical ivory towers instead of rolling up sleeves and kicking devil butt."

There is no doubt that the man is quotable.

That Bob Larson seems to be somewhat of a maverick even within his own religious denomination, not to mention the opinions of what he calls the "secular press," has not inhibited his success.

During the early portion of Thursday's rally, before an impassioned audience of about 400, Larson recounted an impressive list of media organizations interested in his work: the *Los Angeles Times* and *New York Times*, the Discovery Channel and Sci-Fi Channel, NBC, and *60 Minutes*.

He boasts, after all, that he has performed more exorcisms than any living person in America. This status allows him to fill churches and hotel ballrooms across North America with eager audience members, willing to pay \$39.99 for his four-part cassette series, *The Dos and Don'ts of Dealing with the Devil*, or react to his stern budget declarations with a flurry of checkbooks. His proliferation as a writer cannot be denied, either, having recently returned to fiction writing with *Shock Talk*, autographed copies of which can be purchased in the lobby for \$3 less than cover price.

While attending two of the three rallies over the weekend, I spoke at length with Anhorn, a sin-



ONCE IT IS NO LONGER THE HUMAN LARSON IS SPEAKING WITH BUT A COMPLETE MANIFESTATION OF THAT EVIL INSIDE, THE DEMON INVARIABLY BECOMES A SWAGGERING, SWEARING JAMES DEAN-TYPE, LEANING BACK FROM THE HIPS AND SPITTING OUT WORDS, AND LARSON BECOMES THE BAD COP.

ceremonial man in charge of administration within the Ministry, several impressed parishioners, and a few members of Larson's security team, the Christian Motorcyclists.

It appears that this is how the Bob Larson magic works—he speaks primarily of a loving God and a troubled world, which Satan seems intent on plaguing.

Larson begins by creating what he calls a "safe atmosphere" within the Church, inviting us to remove our "church faces." At first pacifying, he then attempts to gradually create tension in the room by gesticulating wildly and emphasizing emotional words.

He invites emotions like anger to develop, in order that we "go to the place where the pain is," as he circles the sanctuary—DWJD team following closely behind.

Occasionally, he dips into the audience, reading faces, discussing the pain of abuse in sometimes cringe-worthy examples. And then, someone's demon will rise to Larson's invitation, in a recognizable pattern: early moans, an inward struggle until the demon seems to transform innocent human facial features into a weeping and contorted mess that is convincing because there is obviously some intense emotional pain there.

Once it is no longer the human Larson is speaking with but a complete manifestation of that evil inside, the demon invariably becomes a swaggering, swearing James Dean-type, leaning back from the hips and spitting out words, and Larson becomes the Bad Cop.

He questions the demon about time, details of abuse: "When did you get him?" he snorts; "What did his daddy really do to him?"

These details are often horrifying, as they tend to fall within the incest category. The victim is goaded into reaction as Larson repeatedly strikes them with his worn red Bible on the neck and chest. He pushes, and as was the case on Friday night, he can apparently draw some heavy results. A 16-year-old boy, stricken with a genetic disease that had impacted his ability to grow to average size, outstruggled his Christian Motorcyclist captors who were attempting to hold him back, and lunged at Larson's neck, screaming about murder.

Finally, Larson makes the demon repeat an oath to leave the body, and brings the Bible down hard on the victim's shoulder, often sending him or her to the ground.

It is here that a catharsis is reached. Standing up again, the victim is brought back to him or herself, and Larson jokes about the weird and wonderful behaviour manifested moments before.

It is strange to watch the interplay of abuse and confidence building while an anticipating audience leans forward in the pews, hands to lips in prayer. The DWJD team hurries about the confused group, attempting to reach anyone else whose emotions or demons have overcome them. Strange hoots and the echoes of weeping drift up from the scene. So much wreckage, and after, so much joy; Larson's next move is to rebuild the community again, increase our confidence, encourage us to be sure that God's love does indeed surround us, and then perhaps we sing, or cheer, or shout, "Amen!"

There are some troubling aspects of this process. Larson does not fail to mention the difficulties of differentiating multiple and dissociative personality disorders from true possession. Some members of the audience may have serious psychological problems, as was the case with the schizophrenic woman who joined the conference on Thursday night, but as with most issues, Bob Larson has an answer.

In reference to such disorders, Larson said, "you need to get the demon out, then the psychiatrist can do you good." He claims that most people have been "ravaged by dark forces at the deepest core of their being," and that the answer lies in God's healing through his work.

Many believe he has the answer, though to his credit, he never claimed to be the answer. Neatly removing himself from the equation, of his work and the DWJD team, he says memorably, using typically loaded language, "This is the vision God has given us—when I'm not there, they are."



the sex boys

Great workout! Huh, ladies? Ha ha. See you tonight?

"Jazzercise." Ha ha!

RRH!

peel

whomp!

what?

nothing

animalize animalize animalize

STUDENT DISTRESS

to be continued!

Joe Clark's Log: Hello, this is the disembodied head of Joe Clark. Our search for Neal Ozano (and the rest of me) has taken us to the sports section.

Election Results



President:	1. Chris Samuel	2396
	2. Greg Harlow	1300
	3. Your Mom	933
VP Academic:	1. Amy Salzyn	
	Yes	3762
	No	463
VP External:	1. Kory Zwack	1650
	2. Anand Sharma	1387
	3. Lisa Clyburn	1320
VP Operations & Finance:	1. Jamie Speer	
	Yes	3271
	No	1121
VP Student Life:	1. Jen Wanke	2702
	2. Marc Mahe	1592
Board of Governors Representative:	1. Chris Burrows	2507
	2. Tracie Scott	1485
Off-Campus Fees	Yes	2834
Referendum	No	1488
ARIRG Referendum	Yes	2950
	No	1495

The 2001 Students' Union Elections Office would like to thank all candidates and volunteers for their hard work and dedication to their respective campaigns. A special debt of gratitude goes out to the poll captains, poll clerks, and staff of University of Alberta Students' Union. Without these individuals, this event certainly could not have taken place.

A special thanks to the following:

WATSON ABERANT ARNOLD – for accounting services
CITY OF EDMONTON ELECTIONS OFFICE – donation
of ballot counter

Finally, a personal thank-you to all of the voters. It is with your blessing that the Students' Union achieves the validity, and maintains the ability, to work on behalf of all undergraduate students at the University of Alberta. Thank-you.

Heather Clark
Chief Returning Officer



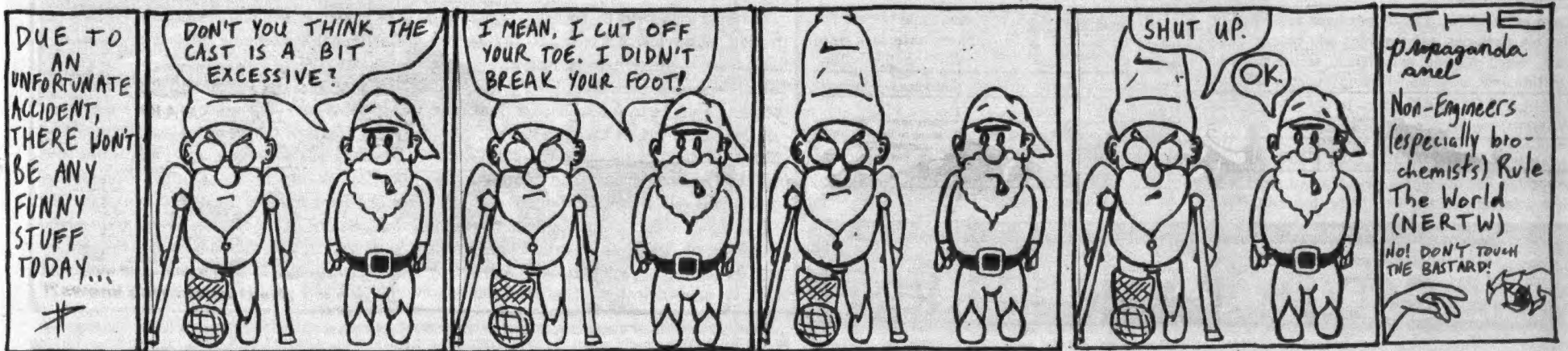
The Pug Factory by Fish Griwkowsky



Mental Gnome Processes by David Hau



Mental Gnome Processes by David "The Rookie" Hau



SquidFux by E Ignacio



Um, hi **cartoonists**. Remember there's a cartoonists' meeting, complete with **chips**, this Friday at 3:30. (There will be no chips). Also, pick up all of your old cartoons from the out box by the end of next week or I'll, like, recycle them.

CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, call
Information Registries at
492-4212

For Rent

3 basement bedrooms avail 1 April. 11260-78 Avenue, call Nathan @ 988-2894. \$325/month, includes utilities, full kitchen, bathroom, washer and dryer. 10-minute walk to U of A.

Services

PDQ - Term papers, theses, professional editor. \$2 per double-spaced page. Call 438-8287.

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For Sale

Various computer parts: 8Mb STB Velocity 128ZX AGP video card (\$50), 4Mb S3 Virge PCI video card (\$30), 8x IDE CD-ROM drive (\$20), two 10bT ethernet cards (\$10 apiece). Call Dan at 439-8566.

Wanted

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Piano, voice, and violin teachers wanted for St Albert Music Conservatory. Send resume to #30, 580, St Albert Road, St Albert, T8N 6M9. Phone 460-4430.

Class 3 Tank Truck Operator, Edm, Spruce, Stony and area. Tuesday through Saturday (Farm Experience an asset) April to September. 460-2817

Executive Director required for nonprofit OSC. Looking for enthusiastic, flexible individual passionate about quality child care. QECC-A, administrative and programming experience required. Competitive salary and benefits available. Send resumé with references to 4716-115 Street Edmonton T6H 3N8 before 6 April, 2001.

Employment - Part Time

GREAT WEEKEND WORK. Great for post-secondary students. Be a DJ. Must have dress clothes. Vehicle an asset. Call Jayme @ 465-1255.

Cashiers for pharmacies: full- or part-time. Central and Northwest locations. Call 477-1032.

Personals

EDMONTON'S COOLEST PARTY LINE DIAL: 44-PARTY Ads Jokes Stories & More! 18+ FREE CALL 24hrs.

Lost & Found

Found: one backpack, helmet and gloves. If you lost this please call 471-3326 after 5:00pm and describe the items and where you lost them. When ownership confirmed we will return the same.

Three Lines For A Toonie (\$1 of which goes to the Food Bank)

This guy is such a Rush

hey baby. you know what? "everything she wants" by whom is kinda good -winners with files from Skip

I so love waking you up every two hours...

How much do I love tuesdays now.

A special treat for any and all that can identify the common theme shared by all 3 of my contributions in this newspaper. - Raymond

thnx for a wild party kids! -skip

HAPPY BOB KNOWS

The English and Comparative Literature Departments present James Castle Exhibition on Friday, 23 March at 3:00pm and 3:30pm. There is no charge for admission. The location is HC L-3. Tom Trusky presents a lecture and exhibit of the work of James Castle. For more info contact Mary Elizabeth Leighton at marylizabeth.leighton@ualberta.ca

The English, Comp Lit, Religion and Film Studies Departments present Distinguished Visitor Daniel Boyarin on Wednesday, 21 March to Friday, 30 March at 2:00pm on 22 March, 3:30pm; on 27 March at 2:00pm on 29 March. There is no charge for admission. The location is HC L-3 on 22 March; HC L-1 on 27 March; Tory 2-58 on 29 March. Public lectures and research presentations on Judaism/Christianity issues. For more info contact Julie Rak at 492-4148.

The Psychology Department presents the fifteenth Joseph R Royce Research Conference on Friday, 23 March from 11:00am to 4:30pm. There is no charge for admission. The location is Biological Sciences Building. General Psychology research conference with poster and paper presentations and a keynote speaker. For more info contact Trudy Kwong at 492-4202.

The English Department presents Richard

Van Camp on Tuesday, 27 March at 2:00pm. There is no charge for admission. The location is HC L-3. Reading by playwright/novelist for more info contact Doug Barbour at 492-0521.

UAYS (U of A Women in Science and Engineering) presents Panel Discussion on Wednesday, 21 March from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. There is no charge for admission. The location is Education South 327. "Things they don't teach you in school." People in science, engineering and technology talk about their experiences and share advice on how to overcome obstacles and succeed in these fields. Dinner will be provided. For more info contact UAYS at uawse@ualberta.ca

HBK is a service provided for Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. HBK is only printed in the Tuesday edition of the Gateway each week. HBK does not publish events that are weekly, on-going, or not open to the public. Incomplete forms will not be submitted. Submissions will print for one issue only. Entry deadline is 3:00pm Fridays (submit your entry on the Friday before the issue you wish it to appear in). Submit to Information Registries (030-A, Lower level SUB) or to an Information Desk.

ASTRONOWATCH

Ughh, my weekend was a total write-off. How was yours? At least we all have a reason to get down and get funky today: it's the spring equinox. It happened this morning at exactly 6:31am.

The space shuttle Discovery is scheduled to land tomorrow at 10:56am. It's coming back from a mission to deposit the second ISS crew, who are up there for the next four months. If you're by a television at that time, watch CNN to get all the gory details.

On Thursday, come up to the observatory and see Saturn's largest moon, Titan, LIVE, for ONE NIGHT ONLY!!! Omigod!

This Sunday, Oscar night coincides with the beginning of the Islamic year 1422. While this doesn't have much to do with astronomy, it is cool nonetheless.

Also, it has been brought to my attention that PBS is showing episodes of *Cosmos* at 2:00pm. This was an astronomy show from 1980 hosted by Carl Sagan. The show was the first major attempt to bring astronomy to the people is well worth watching, if only for Carl Sagan's awesome turtleneck sweaters.

No silly, it's not astrology; it's astronomy. *AstronoWatch* is a weekly feature published every Tuesday. Our resident astronomer, Kati Kovacs, sets the stage for the cosmos and invites you up to the Campus Observatory every Thursday evening at 8:00pm. Just take the elevator in the Physics Building up to the sixth floor and then the stairs up to the seventh floor. Walk out on to the roof and check out the view with the University's telescopes.

We need a few good kids.

So, the Gateway is now accepting applications for 8 line editor positions and 1 managerial position for the 2001/2002 publishing year:

2 News Editors
Managing Editor
Entertainment Editor
Sports Editor
Features Editor
Photo Editor
Production Editor
Circulation Manager



A relevant application would include such things as a cover letter, resumé, and portfolio. Please submit your 'package' to Mr Dan Lazin in 0-10 SUB by 4:00pm, 23 March, 2001 and by 'package,' I mean your application package, not genitalia, although Dan may appreciate that and reward you with a gold star.

As common sense would dictate, suitable applicants should know something about the position they are applying for and relevant skills involved: reading, writing, newspapers, Mac's, etc.

Know your deadlines

March 30, 2001

Last day to withdraw from six-week courses offered in the second half of winter term

a partnership of the University of Alberta and the Students' Union



Student OmbudService

2-306 SUB | 492-4689 | ombuds@su.ualberta.ca | www.su.ualberta.ca